

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department of the Senate

Budget Estimates

26-30 May 2014

Question: 60

Topic: Contracts for temporary staff

Written: 12 June 2014

Senator LUDWIG asked:

1. How much did the department/agency spend on temporary or contract staff since 7 September 2013?
2. How many temporary or contract staff were employed since 7 September 2013?
3. How many temporary or contract staff are currently employed?
4. How much was paid for agencies/companies to find temporary/contract staff?
5. How much is budgeted in the 2014/15 year for contract staff?
6. What policies/criteria govern the appointment of Contract staff?
7. How is the use of contract staff consistent with a professional, independent public service?

Answer:

1. Since 7 September, the Department has spent \$308,058 on contract staff. (This does not include amounts spent on legal advisers to committees supported by the Department).
2. Four contract staff have been employed since 7 September 2013.
3. Four contract staff are currently employed.
4. Nil.
5. The Department is still allocating its internal budget for 2014-15.
6. The Department applies the Commonwealth Procurement Rules when engaging contract staff.
7. As a parliamentary department, this question is not applicable.