Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee Public Hearing Question

Question Number: 1

Question Date: 19 May 2017 Table Office Due Date: 31 May 2017

Senator McAllister asked the First Assistant Commissioner, Australian Public Service Commission:

CHAIR: To be clear, at the moment there are a number of agencies that are the subject of this order and you are working with them on implementation?

Ms Vine-Camp: When they approach us to have a conversation about how the Public Service Act works or issues regarding the deployment of those staff, we talk to them about that, as we do with all agencies.

CHAIR: Which agencies have approached you about implementation of the order?

Ms Vine-Camp: We have had a conversation with the APVMA. They are the agency we have spoken to around how they might deal with some staff issues about that. We have spoken to them about what the act allows, and that is the only approach we have had.

CHAIR: When did that engagement take place?

Ms Vine-Camp: That engagement takes place on a regular basis. We talk to lots of agencies all of the time. I do not have the dates. I would have to take that on notice.

Answer

Ms Vine-Camp: 15 February 2017



Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee Public Hearing Question

Question Number: 2

Question Date: 19 May 2017 Table Office Due Date: 31 May 2017

Senator McAllister asked the First Assistant Commissioner, Australian Public Service Commission:

CHAIR: Can I ask you to provide on notice the raw numbers for public servants employed in regional areas for the last four years?

Answer

Ms Vine-Camp:

The APSC records the office postcode of all Australian Public Service (APS) employees. This information is provided to the APSC from the human resource systems of each agency. It is stored within the APS Employment Database (APSED). APSED also collects and monitors APS staff headcount, movements and separations.

The APSC has collected postcode data for some years. The data was not routinely used and was therefore not subject to regular quality assurance processes as it was not the main focus of reporting within APSED.

In 2013, an audit of postcode information was conducted. This audit indicated that accuracy of data collected to that date was not reliable.

In response, the APSC instituted specific quality assurance processes for postcode data from that time.

The data below shows the number and proportion of APS employees who are not located in Canberra, the State/Territory capitals or overseas. The data is provided as at 31 December for the period since reliable data has been collected.

Location	2014	2015	2016
	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)
Regional	20,199	20,808	21,572
	(13.3%)	(13.7%)	(14.1%)