

Senate Select Committee into the Abbott Government's Budget Cuts

Canberra Public Hearing – 26 March 2015

Questions Taken on Notice – Australian Securities and Investments Commission

1. HANSARD, Page 1/2

Senator DASTYARI: This report, I assume, was an internal report? Was it a public report?

Mr Iglesias: I think it was made public. The report was commissioned by the Department of Finance and the Treasury. I can find out for you.

Senator DASTYARI: If you could take that on notice. If it is a public report, if you could just point us in the direction. It is probably to on a website somewhere. Who did you say it was done by?

ANSWER:

The report was an internal report and was not made public.

2. HANSARD, Page 3

Senator DASTYARI: Do you have figures for how many people are in each team?

Mr Iglesias: From the analysis that we have done, when you look at the distribution of staff across the organisation and you look at where our voluntary redundancies came from, the curves pretty much match. So if you look at where most of our staff there were given a redundancy, the majority came from the back office. We had about 95 to 100 staff coming from the operations team, which I am responsible for, and also our company business names registrations business. We had about 20 or so staff that were made redundant from the enforcement teams, around about 20 to 30 from registry, about 27 from the commission specialist teams, 39 from the stakeholder teams and around about 20 from our stakeholder services team. The curves do actually match. When you see the distribution of staff across the organisation, there was not one part of the business that actually took a greater hit than any other. The way that it came down, the curves actually matched each other quite closely.

Senator DASTYARI: Are you able to take on notice a breakdown of the 200, exactly where they fall? I know you have outlined them there but if you could take that and provide us with a table. I know Mr Medcraft has made comments to this effect in the past—that is, what the impact of a 10 per cent cut to the budget entails. It has all been on the public record that ASIC has run a lean and efficient operation, so the act of cutting a substantial part of the budget of course has an impact on what operations can and cannot be carried out. There is not a lot of fat there. Is that your experience? What has been the outcome of cuts in terms of what ASIC can and cannot do?

ANSWER:

The breakdown by cluster of the number of staff made redundant (involuntary and voluntary) is shown in the table below:

Cluster	IVR	VR	Grand Total
Commission Specialist Teams	1	26	27
Investors & Financial Consumers	2	41	43
Markets		36	36
Operations	21	46	67
Registry		28	28
Grand Total	24	177	201

3. HANSARD, Page 7

Senator RHIANNON: So we have 201 redundancies and 20 from the enforcement area. I was interested in getting to the point where we have the percentage for the total workforce and how many of them we are losing from the enforcement section. Do you have those figures?

Mr Iglesias: What you are asking, if I understand you correctly, is what percentage of our staff would make up enforcement and what percentage of the staff was reduced from enforcement. Is that right?

Senator RHIANNON: Yes.

Mr Iglesias: I do not have those figures with me, but we can certainly answer that question for you.

ANSWER:

Redundancies from enforcement teams within the clusters represented 10% of the total redundancies (201 redundancies across ASIC). This resulted in a 7.75% reduction in enforcement staff numbers for 2014/15.