

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 29 MAY 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Portfolio Staffing - Turnover

Question reference number: HS 12

Senator: Fifield

Type of question: Hansard pages 95-96

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 27 July 2012

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) Senator FIFIELD: Thank you. What was the staff turnover in 2011-12?

Ms Bennett: I am just waiting for the officer to come forward. The department's attrition rate—

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Ms Bennett: The separation rate from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012 was 2,760 staff—that is, 7.7 per cent of our workforce.

Senator FIFIELD: Sorry, that was up until when?

Ms Bennett: 31 March this year.

Ms Campbell: So it was a 12-month period.

Ms Bennett: A 12-month period.

Senator FIFIELD: Okay. And for the preceding 12-month period?

Ms Bennett: I am sorry, I do not have that information. I will have to take that on notice.

- b) Senator FIFIELD: For the 12-month period you referred to, how many of those separations were resignations?

Ms Bennett: I do not have that information either.

Senator FIFIELD: If you could take that on notice.

- c)How long does it take, on average, to fill a position once it has become vacant?

Ms Bennett: From the time that the position is advertised—

Senator FIFIELD: Then again, you are probably not filling all positions.

Ms Bennett: Not a lot, no. I am happy to take that on notice.

Answer:

- a) The separation rate for ongoing employees for the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012 was 2,760 staff; that is, 7.7 per cent of our ongoing workforce.

The separation rate for ongoing employees for the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011 was 3,295 staff; that is, 8.9 per cent of our ongoing workforce.

- b) Of the 2,760 separations for ongoing employees for the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012, 1,227 were resignations (i.e. resigned from the public service); that is, 3.4 per cent of our ongoing workforce as at 31 March 2012.

Of the 3,295 separations of ongoing staff for the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011, 1,356 were resignations (i.e. resigned from the public service); that is, 3.7 per cent of our ongoing workforce as at 31 March 2011.

- c) The average timeframe to fill a gazetted vacancy is 60 days from advertising.