

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 203  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Agency  
**Programme:** Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)  
**Topic:** Staff Relocations  
**Hansard Page:** 21  
**Question Date:** 08 February 2016  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

**Senator URQUHART:** Out of those 22 sites—the 13 sites that you talked about and then the next nine—that are going to be automated, how many of those employees would have the option? You may need to take this on notice; I do not know.

**Dr Barrell:** I can take that on notice.

**Senator URQUHART:** I just want to know how many have the condition that they move back to a capital city and how many do not.

**Dr Barrell:** Certainly.

**Senator URQUHART:** Are you able to get that to us before the end of today?

**Dr Barrell:** Yes.

**Answer:**

Of the sites that are receiving local technical upgrades to improve services, all 50 employees will be given the opportunity to nominate their preferred new location from the capital cities plus Cairns. The Bureau will endeavour to accommodate preferred locations wherever possible.

The 50 employees consist of 36 permanently posted positions and 14 positions that are posted on a non-permanent basis.

The 36 staff permanently posted will have the option to relocate or take a voluntary redundancy.

The 14 staff posted on a non-permanent basis will also have the option to relocate, but they will not have the option of a voluntary redundancy. Their positions are recruited on the basis that they would return to the location, in most cases a capital city, from which they were recruited at the conclusion of their posting cycle.