

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Budget Estimates Hearings May 2014
Communications Portfolio
Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency

Question No: 454

Program No. TUSMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Contract extensions

Senator LUNDY asked:

1. Since the 18 September 2013 how many non-ongoing contracts has your Department/Agency extended?
2. How many non-ongoing contract extensions did your Department/Agency submit the Public Service Commission for approval?
3. How many of these extensions were approved by the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC)?
4. For every approved extension please provide the following details:
 - a. The employees age.
 - b. Their gender.
 - c. A description of their position.
 - d. Their APS classification level.
 - e. Their wage.
 - f. Where they are located.
 - g. Their length of continuous employment at the APS.
 - h. The length of the approved extension.
 - i. The reason why the extension was submitted.
 - j. The reason why the extension was approved by the APSC.
 - k. Please provide all relevant dates.
5. How many of these extensions were rejected by the APSC?
6. For every rejected extension please provide the following details:
 - a. The employee's age.
 - b. Their gender.
 - c. A description of their position.
 - d. Their wage.
 - e. Where they were located.
 - f. Their length of continuous employment at the APS.
 - g. The length of the extension sought by the Department/Agency.
 - h. The reason why the extension was submitted.
 - i. The reason why the extension was rejected by the APSC.
 - j. Please provide all relevant dates.

Answer:

1. Since 18 September 2013, TUSMA has extended 4 non-ongoing contracts that were entered into prior to this date.
2. – 3. On 31 October 2013, the Government announced interim recruitment arrangements within the APS. In line with the policy objectives, TUSMA has reported monthly to the Australian

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Public Service Commission (APSC) the extension/new non-ongoing contracts. Since 31 October 2013, TUSMA has 4 non-ongoing contracts in place.

4. For every approved extension please provide the following details:
 - a. The 4 non-ongoing contractors were aged within the following bracket 25-50.
 - b. 3 F : 1 M.
 - c. The positions were of an administrative nature.
 - d. Two contractors were at the APS 4, one at the APS 6 and one at the EL1 classifications.
 - e. The contractors wage is in line with the TUSMA Enterprise Agreement which is available on our website.
 - f. Positions are located in Melbourne, Victoria.
 - g. Length of time for these contracts ranged from 3-12 months.
 - h. Contracts were extended on a case-by-case basis.
 - i. Due to operational requirements of the agency.
 - j. Supporting documentation was provided as per the monthly requirements and contract extensions were aligned to the policy.
 - k. Dates range from 31 October 2013 to 29 May 2014.
5. Nil.
6. Not applicable.