

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Budget Estimates Hearings May 2014**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Department of Communications**

**Question No: 637**

**Program No. Corporate**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Contract extensions**

**Senator Lundy asked:**

1. Since the 18 September 2013 how many new employees have been engaged by your Department/Agency on ongoing contracts?
2. Since the 18 September 2013 how many new ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval?
3. How many of these new ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission?
4. For every approved new engagement of ongoing employee please provide the following details:
  - a. Their age.
  - b. Their gender.
  - c. A description of their position.
  - d. Their wage.
  - e. Where their position is located.
  - f. Their position's APS level classification.
  - g. The length of their ongoing contract.
  - h. Whether their position was advertised externally.
  - i. The reason for engaging this new employee.
  - j. The reason provided by APSC for approving this engagement.
  - k. Please provide all relevant dates.
5. How many of these new ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission?
6. For every new ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details:
  - a. Their age.
  - b. Their gender.
  - c. A description of their position.
  - d. Where their position is located.
  - e. Their wage.
  - f. Their position's APS level classification.
  - g. The length of their ongoing contract.
  - h. Whether their position was advertised externally.
  - i. The reason for engaging this new employee.
  - j. The reason provided by APSC for approving this engagement.
  - k. Please provide all relevant dates.
7. How many new employees have been engaged on ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission?

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8. For every ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details:
  - a. Their age.
  - b. Their gender.
  - c. A description of their position.
  - d. Where their position is located.
  - e. Their wage.
  - f. Their position's APS level classification.
  - g. The length of their ongoing contract.
  - h. Whether their position was advertised externally.
  - i. The reason for engaging this new employee.
  - j. The reason for engaging this employee without the APSC permission.
  - k. Please provide all relevant dates.

**Answer:**

1. 9.
2. Nil.
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. Not applicable.
7. 9. The offer of employment had been made prior to the interim recruitment arrangements commencing on 31 October 2013.
8. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of Departmental resources.