

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

Question No: 122
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Corporate Strategies Division (CSD)
Topic: TEMPORARY STAFF - COST OF ENGAGEMENT
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Question Date: 26 May 2014
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Urquhart asked:

Senator URQUHART: How many temporary staff has the department engaged in 2013–14 to cover vacant positions and what has been the total cost of those temporary staff arrangements?

Dr de Brouwer: While Ms Carlos is preparing that answer, we naturally have a reasonable degree of non-ongoing staff, particularly in the Antarctic division because of the nature of the operational activities.

Ms Carlos: In the current financial year from 1 July, 2013 through to 30 April, 2014 we have had 304 non-ongoing commencements. A very large part of those are staff that are used in either the Antarctic division or indeed in parks and who have a very high level of seasonal type employment. They are not necessarily staff that are used to replace existing positions. So they are a mix of different types. But 304 non-ongoing, and that is a headcount figure.

Senator URQUHART: What has been the total cost of those engagements?

Ms Carlos: I could not tell you what that is. We would have to take that on notice.

Answer:

The cost of 304 non-ongoing employees from 1 July 2013 to 30 April 2014 is \$13,119,389. This includes salary, accrued leave, employer superannuation and allowances.