

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

**Question No:** 9  
**Hearing:** Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Corporate  
**Programme:** Corporate Strategies Division (CSD)  
**Topic:** Reduction in staffing numbers - percentages  
**Hansard Page:** 13  
**Question Date:** 25 May 2015  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Waters asked:**

**Senator WATERS:** Are you saying that you have lost more than 16 per cent of your workforce currently?

**Ms Wiley-Smith:** Yes, we have.

**Senator WATERS:** Do you have a figure that more accurately reflects that?

**Ms Wiley-Smith:** I will have to actually come back. I only have more recent figures around the last 18 months. We can have a look at what happened before that.

**Answer:**

As at 30 April 2015, the Department of the Environment had 2497 employees (headcount), this is a reduction of 491 or 16.4 per cent from the 2988 employees as at 30 June 2012. It should be noted that the net effect of Machinery of Government (MoG) changes led to a net addition of 229 staff during this period. If the impact of the MoG changes is included, the percentage decrease would be greater than 16.4 per cent.