

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2014-15
2-3 June 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Contracts for Temporary Staff

REFERENCE: Written Questions – Senator Ludwig

QUESTION No.: BI-140

1. How much did the department/agency spend on temporary or contract staff since September 7th 2013?
2. How many temporary or contract staff were employed since September 7th 2013?
3. How many temporary or contract staff are currently employed?
4. How much was paid for agencies/companies to find temporary/contract staff
5. How much is budgeted in the 2014/15 year for contract staff?
6. What policies/criteria govern the appointment of Contract staff?
7. How is the use of contract staff consistent with a professional, independent public service?

ANSWER

Details/figures on contracts for temporary staff for the period 7 September 2013 to 30 June 2014:

1. Payment of temporary or contract staff is managed by each division, the information is not held centrally, to provide this level of detail would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
2. 107. for varying periods of time.
3. 211.
4. Payment of agencies/companies for the employment of temporary or contract staff is managed by each division, the information is not held centrally to provide this level of detail would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.
5. The internal budgets for the department are not yet determined and therefore it is not possible to provide a budget for contract staff in 2014-15. We are not expecting to have this information finalised until mid to late August.
6. The appointment of contract staff is governed by the Public Service Act 1999 and instruments made under that Act, the Department Enterprise Agreement and relevant policies of that Agreement, and requirements of the APSC under current recruitment conditions of the APS.
7. Contract staff are employed to undertake critical work on short or long term projects or where they have a specific skills set critical to the role.