

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Treasury Portfolio
Budget Estimates 2014
3 June to 5 June 2014

Department/ Agency: Treasury

Question: BET 1049-1055

Topic: Contracts for temporary staff

Reference: Written – 12 June 2014

Senator: Ludwig

Question:

- 1049. How much did the department/agency spend on temporary or contract staff since September 7th 2013?
- 1050. How many temporary or contract staff were employed since September 7th 2013?
- 1051. How many temporary or contract staff are currently employed?
- 1052. How much was paid for agencies/companies to find temporary/contract staff?
- 1053. How much is budgeted in the 2014/15 year for contract staff?
- 1054. What policies/criteria govern the appointment of Contract staff?
- 1055. How is the use of contract staff consistent with a professional, independent public service?

Answer:

- 1049. For the period 1 September 2013 to 31 May 2014, Treasury spent \$534,150 on temporary/contract staff.
- 1050. For the period 1 September 2013 to 31 May 2014, Treasury employed a total of 7 temporary/contract staff.
- 1051. Treasury currently have 6 temporary/contract staff.
- 1052. Nil.
- 1053. Treasury does not budget to this level and the use of contractors is limited to project/specialist work as required.
- 1054. The Commonwealth Procurement Rules (CPRs) produced by the Department of Finance set out the rules that officials must comply with when procuring goods or services, including the appointment of contract staff. Treasury internal policies/criteria relevant to these rules can also be found in the departmental Chief Executive Instructions.
- 1055. Drawing on external expertise and knowledge (such as through the use of contract staff) is essential to ensuring the Treasury continues to deliver comprehensive and well-considered policy advice to the Government. In order to ensure that advice remains professional and independent, the department follows the CPRs while ensuring that memoranda of understanding are developed where appropriate regarding confidentiality (what is expected of the staff) and Conflicts of Interest (how potential Conflicts of Interest will be managed during and after their time in the Treasury).