

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Supplementary Budget Estimates

20-21 November 2013

**Question: SBT 575 -579**

**Topic: Public Service Efficiencies**

**Written: 25 November 2013**

**Senator LUDWIG asked:**

575. Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
576. Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
577. Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
578. Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much?
579. Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not, why not? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

**Answer:**

575. Yes. Business flights are undertaken for operational purposes and because of the inherent uncertainties, estimates cannot be accurately made.
576. There has been no use of external consultants and contractors. There has been no impact on the Commission. Use of consultants is already minimal and only modest savings can be expected.
577. All recruitment is conducted online. No. No further savings are expected.
578. Yes. Printing costs have not increased.
579. The 5% savings target has been achieved by reducing the print run of a major report. Continuing this practice will save some \$6000 pa.