

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000114

Senator Cameron asked on 01 June 2015 on proof Hansard page 37

Question

Secondments to the Minister's Office

Senator CAMERON: Have there been any secondments to the minister's office or the assistant minister's office since last estimates?

Ms Rundle: I am just looking at the time period. I have a document here. Perhaps I can just look at the high-level points and then I can go to the detail if you wish me to. From the 26 February additional estimates to 29 May, last Friday, support was provided to Minister Abetz's office on five occasions—although on one occasion, for one person's leave, three officers shared that provision of the relief for that one ministerial staffer—and also to Assistant Minister Hartsuyker's office on two occasions. The periods of support ranged from one day to 25 days.

Senator CAMERON: Could you just detail, on each of those five occasions for Minister Abetz's office, the length of the secondments and the classification? Is there a classification?

Ms Rundle: They were all for the receptionist. There was also one DLO position. They were not for advisers.

Senator CAMERON: Can you give me the length?

Ms Rundle: Yes, I can give you the length. On one occasion there were six—one person did six days relief. I can give you the dates if you want them.

Senator CAMERON: Yes. Maybe on notice you can give me that detail. So there were five occasions for the minister. Was 26 days the longest?

Ms Rundle: The longest period was 10 days, where we had somebody relieving in reception.

Ms Leon: It was a period of 26 days that the receptionist was on leave, but the people who provided the relief did not do the whole 26 days. The longest that anyone did was 10 days.

Then someone else did six and someone else did eight.

Senator CAMERON: Can you provide me with that detail?

Answer

Details of departmental staff who provided relief in Minister Abetz's office between Additional Estimates on 26 February 2015 and Budget Estimates on 1 June 2015 are below.

Start	Finish	Length of time	Staff member level	Role	Comments
18/3/15	18/3/15	1 day	APS 5	Reception	
7/4/2015	10/4/2015	4 days	APS 4	Reception	
20/4/2015	21/4/2015	2 days	EL 1	DLO	
27/4/2015	4/5/2015	6 days	APS 4	Reception	One occasion. Three officers provided relief for a total of 25 days, for one ministerial staffer.
5/5/2015	5/5/2015	1 day	APS 5	Reception	
6/5/2015	15/5/2015	8 days	APS 4	Reception	
18/5/2015	29/5/2015	10 days	APS 4	Reception	
28/5/2015	29/5/2015	2 days	EL 1	DLO	