Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000858

Senator McAllister provided in writing.

Question

Labour hire staff

For the 2015-16 financial year, please outline:

- a) How many staff were employed through labour hire arrangements;
- b) Total expenditure on labour hire staff;
- c) The contractors or labour hire firms engaged to supply these staff;
- d) Total payments to each of the organisations that provided staff through either a labour hire arrangement or other contractual arrangement; and
- e) The nature of the work performed by labour hire staff.

Answer

The Department of Employment's financial and human resource systems do not identify staff employed through labour hire arrangements or the nature of work undertaken by these staff.

To provide this information would require manual examination of individual financial records and invoices, and follow up enquiries on duties performed by staff employed through labour hire firms, which would be an unreasonable diversion of Departmental resources.

The Department generally uses labour hire firms mainly for administrative support and ICT skills where positions are expected to be temporary.

Information on contracts valued at \$10,000 and over is available on the AusTender website at www.tenders.gov.au.