

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2015-16**

Finance Portfolio  
9 February 2016

**Department/Agency:** Department of Finance  
**Outcome/Program:** 3/3.1  
**Topic:** Ministerial staff turnover – SMOS response

**Senator:** Ludwig  
**Question reference number:** F117  
**Type of question:** Written  
**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 1 April 2016

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

Could the SMOS please answer the following questions on behalf of all ministers:  
Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. List the current staffing allocation for all Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.
2. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff recruited, broken down by their staffing classification.
3. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff that have resigned, broken down by their staffing classification
4. For each Minister or Parliamentary Secretary list the number of staff that have been terminated, broken down by their staffing classification
5. For each Ministerial staff position, please provide a table of how many individual people have been engaged against each position, broken down by employing member and the dates of their employment.

**Answer:**

1. Please refer to the Personal Positions Handout as at 1 February 2016 included in the answer to Question on Notice F44 from Additional Estimates 2015-16.
2. For the period 14 September 2015 to 9 February 2016, 102 individuals commenced employment with Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (including 42 electorate staff). Due to small numbers in the majority of offices, and the possibility of individuals being identified, it would not be appropriate to provide this data in more detail.
3. For the period 14 September 2015 to 9 February 2016, 39 employees resigned from the offices of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (including 25 who returned to their public sector employment). Due to small numbers in the majority of offices, and the possibility of individuals being identified, it would not be appropriate to provide this data in more detail.

4. For the period 14 September 2015 to 9 February 2016, 73 employees had their employment terminated from the offices of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (including 72 due to loss of office). A further 18 staff ceased employment from the offices of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries at the end of their non-ongoing employment. Due to small numbers in the majority of offices, and the possibility of individuals being identified, it would not be appropriate to provide this data in more detail.

5. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.