

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Additional Estimates Hearing—February 2017**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **PSS staff funding allocation**

Question: **20**

Hansard Reference **p 28, 31; 27 February 2017**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 13 April 2017

Senator WONG: There was \$100 million in the security works budget from 2014-15 in which there was some operational funding included for additional staff. It is my recollection, and I might be wrong, that there was \$3 million per annum additional staffing. Is that not right?

Mr Creagh: The departmental funding that the department received was a net figure. It included both funding that we got for the additional FTE as well as funding for a number of other operational—

Senator WONG: What was the funding for the additional FTE?

Mr Creagh: I will have to double-check that and get the breakdown, because it is offset against the funding that moved to the AFP to take care of external security. The funding that we got was around about \$2.2 million, and it ended up being \$2.6 million in 2017-18.

...

Senator WONG: What does the \$2.6 million relate to?

Mr Creagh: It relates to staffing that we got and the FTE that we were allocated as well as to a range of other operational, like supplier expenses that were required under the measure. Senator, I will have to take it on notice and ask my team to look into the specifics.

...

Senator WONG: Going back to the original funding for the changes to security—which I think was in 2014-15—I would like to understand the staffing component and the component bits of the costing: how many people and at what levels. Against that, I would like to understand what has actually happened. There might have been changes. There might have been a revision to the allocation you sought. I am just trying to get a sense of the comparison between what you asked for and what you are doing. Is that okay?

Mr Stefanic: We will get that for you.

Answer

A breakdown of the operating funding that DPS received is provided below:

	2014-15 \$'000	2015-16 \$'000	2016-17 \$'000	2017-18 \$'000	2018-19 \$'000
Employee Costs	5,129	5,653	5,641	5,702	5,703
Suppliers	2,713	4,990	4,976	5,274	5,378
Funds removed from DPS Budget (Reappropriated to AFP)	-6,720	-8,400	-8,400	-8,400	-8,400
Total Departmental Opex	1,122	2,243	2,217	2,576	2,681
Administered Opex	2,730	3,363	3,208	1,235	1,235
Total Opex*	3,852	5,606	5,425	3,811	3,916

*This total figure is reflected in the 2014-15 MYEFO measure on page 207.

It is important to note that this is the funding that was provided in the 2014-15 MYEFO and would have subsequently been subject to parameter and efficiency dividend adjustments in line with the Budget rules.

Employee funding was provided for recruitment and ongoing salary costs to support appropriately skilled and capable Parliamentary Security Service (PSS) officers performing duties commensurate with a Parliamentary Service Level three (3) officer.

Supplier funding was provided for standard on-costs, business continuity, ongoing system maintenance related to components of the security works and training associated with the additional PSS staff.