

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**.Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** 'Spill and fill' – SES Band 1 positions

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Penny Wong

**Question reference number:** 180

**Type of Question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 11 July 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Can the 'spill and fill' arrangements for SES Band 1 positions in the Indigenous Affairs group be outlined, including: (a) rationale (b) number of positions 'spilled' (c) number of positions 'filled' (d) commencement date (e) cessation date (f) number of staff who (i) were redeployed within PM&C (ii) redeployed within another APS agency (iii) received an incentive to retire or (iv) were made redundant and (g) associated costs.

**Answer:**

- (a) A 'spill and fill' was necessary to reduce staff numbers at the SES Band 1 level in the Indigenous Affairs Group as there were more staff than positions required.
- (b) 30.
- (c) The final number of positions to be filled is yet to be confirmed.
- (d) 26 May 2014.
- (e) 27 June 2014.
- (f) Responses to parts (i) to (iv) cannot be confirmed as this stage of the process has not yet been completed.
- (g) Final costs cannot be provided as the individual outcomes (i.e. redeployment, reduction or retirement) are not yet known.