

**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:** Redundancies

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig

**Question reference number:** 307

**Type of Question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 4

**Question:**

1. How many positions have been made redundant in your department since the 2013 federal election?
  - a. How many of these positions were ongoing?
  - b. How many of these positions were non-ongoing?
  - c. How many of these positions were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?
2. How many of the employees filling these redundant positions were redeployed since the 2013 federal election?
  - a. How many of these employees were ongoing?
  - b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing?
  - c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?
3. How many of these employees were offered voluntary redundancies since the 2013 federal election?
  - a. How many of these employees were ongoing?
  - b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing?
  - c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?
4. How many accepted voluntary redundancies since the 2013 federal election?
  - a. How many of these employees were ongoing?
  - b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing?
  - c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?
5. How many employees were offered the choice between a voluntary redundancy and redeployment since the 2013 federal election?
  - a. How many of these employees were ongoing?
  - b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing?
  - c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?

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6. For all employees who accepted voluntary redundancies since the 2013 federal election please:
  - a. Provide a dollar figure of their pay out, their age, gender and a description of their position including APS level, contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing), responsibilities and where they were located.
  - b. Please specify what component of that figure was paid out entitlements (annual leave etc).
  - c. Please specify any other costs incurred by the department because of this redundancy.
  - d. Please provide the reason a voluntary redundancy was offered for their position.
  - e. Please provide all relevant dates.
7. For all employees who were redeployed please provide:
  - a. Their age, gender and a description of their position prior to and after redeployment, including the wages of these positions, the APS level of these positions, the contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing) and where they were located.
  - b. Please specify any other costs incurred by the department because of this redeployment.
  - c. Please provide the reason for that redeployment.
  - d. Please provide all relevant dates.
8. Since the 2013 federal election, how many employees in your department have been made forcibly redundant?
  - a. How many of these employees were ongoing?
  - b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing?
  - c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?
9. How many of these employees were offered voluntary redundancies or redeployments prior to being made forcibly redundant?
  - a. How many of these employees were ongoing?
  - b. How many of these employees were non-ongoing?
  - c. How many of these employees were situated in the Australian Capital Territory?
10. For employees who were made forcibly redundant since the 2013 federal election please provide:
  - a. Their age, gender, the dollar figure of their pay out and a description of their position including APS level, contract type (non-ongoing versus ongoing) responsibilities and where they were located.

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- b. Please specify what component of that figure was paid out entitlements (annual leave etc).
- c. Please specify any other costs incurred by the department because of this redundancy.
- d. Please provide the reason for that redundancy.
- e. Please provide all relevant dates.

**Answer:**

1. The response to PM 40 for February 2014 Senate estimates stated that ‘voluntary redundancies were announced on 27 March 2014’. Since then, in the period to 26 June 2014, 123 positions have been made redundant in the Department. Of these:

- a) 123
- b) Nil
- c) 66.

2. None of the employees filling these redundant positions were redeployed as the positions made redundant were done so on a voluntary basis.

3. Of the positions that have been made redundant, all 123 employees were offered a voluntary redundancy. Of these:

- a) 123
- b) Nil
- c) 66.

4. Of the positions that have been made redundant, all 123 employees accepted a voluntary redundancy. Of these:

- a) 123
- b) Nil
- c) 66.

5. Employees were not offered a choice between a voluntary redundancy and redeployment. The positions made redundant were done so on a voluntary basis.

6. Of the employees who accepted a voluntary redundancy:

- a) 41 were under 40 years of age and 82 over 40 years of age;  
79 were female and 44 male;

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63 were at the EL1 and EL2 classification levels and 60 at the APS3 to APS6 classification levels\*;

123 were ongoing; and

66 were located in the ACT and 57 in the state and territory network\*.

*\* Responses have been provided at the higher aggregate level to ensure the anonymity of the individuals is protected.*

(b), (c) and (e) would require an unreasonable diversion of employee resources.

(d) A voluntary redundancy was offered for their position because the number of positions in the Department was reduced and this has been done as part of the efforts to reduce the overall staffing level.

7. N/A.

8. Nil.

9. N/A.

10. N/A.