

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**Budget Estimates – May 2014**

**ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General

**Program 1:** Support for the Governor-General and Official Activities

**Outcome 1:** The performance of the Governor-General's role is facilitated through the organisation and management of official duties, management and maintenance of the official household and property and administration of the Australian Honours and Awards system.

**Topic:** Redundancies

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Question reference number:** QoN 307

**Type of Question:** Written

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

**Number of Pages:** 4

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?
  
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.
  - 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. One, to 31 May 2014.
  - a. One.
  - b. Nil.
  - c. One.
2. Nil, N/A to all.
3. One.
  - a. One.
  - b. Nil.
  - c. One.
4. One.
  - a. One.
  - b. Nil.
  - c. One.
5. Nil, N/A to all.
6. The employee was at the GHO6 level and redundancy was paid in accordance with the prescribed entitlements in the Office Enterprise Agreement and the Fair Work Act 2009 for an employee aged over 45 years with a period of service of more than 4 years but less than 5 years. The employee was deemed excess in accordance with clause 103.2 (ii) of the Office EA "as the services of the employee could not be effectively used because of technological or other changes in the work methods of the Office or structural or other changes in the nature, extent or organisation of the functions of the Office." Divulging further details of this employee could compromise their privacy because of the small size of the agency.
7. N/A.
8. Nil.
9. N/A.

10. N/A.

11. N/A.