

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014-2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman

Outcome/Program:

Outcome 1. Fair and accountable administrative action by Australian Government agencies by investigating complaints, reviewing administrative action and inspecting statutory compliance by law enforcement agencies.

Topic: Hiring

Senator: Senator Ludwig

Question reference number: 308

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 3

Question:

- (1) How many people are employed in your department on non-ongoing contracts?
- (2) How many people are employed in your department on ongoing contracts?
- (3) How many non-ongoing contracts has your department extended since the 2013 federal election?
- (4) How many non-ongoing contract extensions did your department submit the Public Service Commission for approval?
- (5) How many of these extensions were approved by the Public Service Commission?
 - a. For every approved extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of approved extension, the reasons why the extensions was submitted and the reasons why the extension was approved by the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.
- (6) How many of these extensions were rejected by the Public Service Commission?
 - a. For every rejected extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of extension sought by the department, the reasons why the extensions was submitted and the reasons why the extension was rejected by the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.

- (7) How many non-ongoing contracts have been extended by your department without the Public Service Commission's approval?
- a. For every unapproved extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of the unapproved extension, the reasons why the extension was granted, whether the extension was submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval, and the reasons why the extension was granted without the approval of the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.
- (8) How many non-ongoing contracts have expired without extension since the 2013 federal election?
- a. For every expired non-ongoing contract please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the reason why an extension was not sought, as well as all relevant dates.
- (9) How many new employees have been engaged by your department on non-ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election?
- (10) How many new non-ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2014 federal election?
- (11) How many of these new non-ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission?
- a. For every approved new engagement of a non-ongoing employee please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for approving this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.
- (12) How many of these new non-ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission?
- a. For every new non-ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details: APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, the reason for engaging the new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for rejecting this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.
- (13) How many new employees have been engaged on non-ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission?
- a. For every non-ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates.
- (14) How many new employees have been engaged by your department on ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election?

- (15) How many new ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2013 federal election?
- (16) How many of these new ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission?
- a. For every approved new engagement of a ongoing employee please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for approving this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.
- (17) How many of these new ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission?
- a. For every new ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details: APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, the reason for engaging the new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for rejecting this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.
- (18) How many new employees have been engaged on ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission?
- a. For every ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates.

Answer:

- (1) As at 31 May 2014 the Office employed 15 employees on non-ongoing contracts.
- (2) As at 31 May 2014 the Office employed 143 employees on ongoing contracts.
- (3) to (18) The answers to questions 3 to 18 are answered in Question reference number 300 from Senator Lundy. Although the reference date from Senator Lundy's questions is 18 September 2013, there is no change to the details provided for a reference date of 7 September 2013.