

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: Graduate program

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 377

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. How many applicants applied for the agency's 2014 graduate program? How many were accepted?
2. What is the anticipated intake of graduates for the beginning of the 2015 year?
3. Is this a reduction from the previous year? If so, what are the reasons for the decrease in the graduate intake?
4. Have any Government decisions affected the level of graduate intake in the agency?

Answer:

1. 1,199 applications were received for 2014 PM&C graduate programme. 23 were accepted.
2. 20.
3. Yes. The size of the graduate cohort varies from year to year and is determined annually based on the number of available positions and the affordability of the overall workforce.
4. There have been no specific government decisions that have affected the size of the graduate intake. The effect of reductions in agency resourcing from the increases in the efficiency dividend does affect overall agency staffing functions and the graduate intake.