

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 18-22 November 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

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

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

**Topic:** White Paper on Agriculture

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig

**Question reference number:** 52

**Type of Question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 17 January 2014

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

- 1) I understand the Government has announced it will present a white paper for agriculture. Please provide an update on that progress.
- 2) How many departmental staff have been attached to that project?
- 3) What level are those staff at?
- 4) Have they been seconded from a previous capacity or division?
- 5) Are officers backfilling the seconded officers?
- 6) What level are those officers at?
- 7) What duties are they being removed from to backfill the officers on the white paper work?

**Answer:**

- 1) The terms of reference for the White Paper on Agricultural Competitiveness (the White Paper) were released by the Government on 9 December 2013. Regular updates and progress are provided at: [www.agriculturalcompetitiveness.dpmc.gov.au](http://www.agriculturalcompetitiveness.dpmc.gov.au).
- 2) The staffing profile is as follows:

<b>Level</b>	<b>Department Providing</b>	<b>No. of staff</b>
Senior Executive Service Band 2	Agriculture	1
Senior Executive Service Band 1	Prime Minister & Cabinet	1
	Agriculture	1
Executive Level 2	Prime Minister & Cabinet	1
	Agriculture	2

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 18-22 November 2013

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

<b>Level</b>	<b>Department Providing</b>	<b>No. of staff</b>
Executive Level 1	Agriculture	1
	Foreign Affairs & Trade	1
	Infrastructure & Regional Development	1
Australian Public Service 6	Agriculture	2
	Industry	1
Australian Public Service 5	Agriculture	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>

- 3) See answer to question 2.
- 4) The Department of the Prime and Cabinet (PM&C) SESB1 officer was available following the completion of another Taskforce and the EL2 officer is seconded from the Strategy and Delivery Division. Questions about previous roles of officers from other Departments should be directed to those Departments.
- 5) The PM&C officers on the project are not being backfilled. Questions about backfilling officers from other Departments should be directed to those Departments.
- 6) Not applicable.
- 7) Not applicable.