

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee  
—Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2014**

**Answers to Questions on Notice**

**Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services**

Topic: **Contracts for Temporary Staff**

Question: **248**

Written **Senator Ludwig**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 31 December 2014**

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. How much did the department/agency spend on temporary or contract staff?
2. How many temporary or contract staff have been employed?
3. What is the total number of temporary or contract staff currently employed?
4. How much was paid for agencies/companies to find temporary/contract staff?
5. Have there been any changes to the policies/criteria that govern the appointment of contract staff?

**Answer**

1. Since Budget Estimates in May 2014 the Department has:
  - a. Recorded expenditure of \$1,093,948 on Temporary Staff. This figure reflects non-ongoing employees that are not engaged on an irregular/ intermittent basis (i.e casuals/ sessional employees). Irregular and intermittent employees are used to supplement the high service demand areas of DPS during the parliamentary sitting periods, in particularly in Parliamentary Security, Visitor Services and Hansard.
  - b. Recorded expenditure of \$1,801,964 on Contract Staff.
2. Since Budget Estimates in May 2014 the Department has employed:
  - a. 59 Temporary Staff. This total includes 33 irregular (casual); 8 intermittent (sessional) employees and 18 full-time/ part-time (regular) employees.
  - b. 17 Contract Staff.
3. As at 30 September the Department had:
  - a. 152 Temporary Staff. This includes 95 irregular (casual); 17 intermittent (sessional) and 40 full-time/ part-time (regular) employees. Irregular and intermittent employees are used to supplement the high service demand areas of DPS during the parliamentary sitting periods.
  - b. 35 Contract Staff.
4. Since Budget Estimates in May 2014 the Department has recorded expenditure of \$37,484 for agencies/ companies to find temporary staff. No expenditure has been recorded to find contract staff.
5. There have been no changes to the policies/ criteria that govern the appointment of contract staff. All procurement in the Department is conducted as per the Commonwealth Procurement Rules.