

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 168
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Policy and Communications Division
Topic: Portfolio wide - communications staff
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 04 March 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:

- a) How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.
- b) How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
- c) How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
- d) How many are graphic designers?
- e) How many are media managers?
- f) How many organise events?

Answer:

- a) Departmental and agency communication staff provide a range of internal and external communications services.

These skills contribute to the presentation and communication of policy and program materials. The work of communications staff includes the development of material to communicate policies and programs, the development of communication strategies and plans, stakeholder engagement activities, media and social media liaison, monitoring and engagement, liaison with the offices of the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary, public relations, issues management, events management, sponsorship management, publication development and advertising advice.

The Department of the Environment (the Department) public relations work is undertaken by Public Affairs Officers in the Public Affairs Unit, Communications and Ministerial Services Branch. Portfolio agency staff have a combination of Public Affairs Officers and APS classified staff to deliver public relations work.

Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent ongoing staff and are current at 1 March 2014.

The Department (Canberra): 29

Senior Public Affairs Director Grade 2:	2
Senior Public Affairs Director Grade 1:	4
Public Affairs Officer Grade 3:	14 (of which six are part time)

Public Affairs Officer Grade 2:	5
Public Affairs Officer Grade 1:	4
The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 3	
APS 6:	1 (part time):
APS 5:	2 (both part time)
The Department (Tasmania): 7	
Executive Level 2:	1
Public Affairs Officer Grade 3:	1
Public Affairs Officer Grade 2:	1
APS 6:	3
APS 5:	1
Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 15	
Executive Level 2:	4
Executive Level 1:	5
APS 6:	3
APS 5:	2
APS 3:	1
Bureau of Meteorology (Canberra): 1	
Executive Level 1:	1
Bureau of Meteorology (Hobart): 1	
Executive Level 1:	1
Bureau of Meteorology (Sydney): 1	
Executive Level 1:	1
Bureau of Meteorology (Brisbane): 1	
Executive Level 1:	1
Bureau of Meteorology (Perth): 1	
Executive Level 1:	1
Bureau of Meteorology (Adelaide): 1	
Executive Level 1:	1

Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 13

Executive Level 2:	1
Executive Level 1:	8
APS 6:	1
APS 5:	3

Climate Change Authority (Melbourne): 0**Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 9**

Executive Level 2:	1
Executive Level 1:	2
APS 6:	1
APS 5:	2
APS 4:	2
APS 3:	1

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 11

Executive Level 2:	2*
Executive Level 1:	5
APS 6:	4

* One EL2 is only responsible for managing communications staff 50% of the time.

National Water Commission (Canberra): 2

Executive Level 2:	1
APS 6:	1 (part time)

Director of National Parks (Canberra): 4

Senior Public Affairs Director Grade 1:	1
Public Affairs Officer Grade 3:	2 (of which one is part time)
Public Affairs Officer Grade 2:	1

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0

- b) Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent non-ongoing staff and are current at 1 March 2014.

The Department (Canberra): 0

The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 1

APS 5: 1 (part time)

The Department (Tasmania): 0

Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 13

Executive Level 1: 5

APS 6: 5

APS 5: 3

Bureau of Meteorology (Darwin): 1

Executive Level 1: 1

Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 1

APS 5: 1

Climate Change Authority (Melbourne): 0

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 2

APS 6: 1

APS 5: 1

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 0

National Water Commission (Canberra): 2

EL1: 1 (part time)

APS 6: 1 (part time)

Director of National Parks (Canberra): 1

APS 6: 1

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 3

APS 6: 3

- c) Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent contractors and are current at 1 March 2014.

The Department (Canberra): 0

The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 0

The Department (Tasmania): 0

Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 4

APS 6: 2

APS 5: 1

APS 2: 1

Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 1

APS 6: 1

Climate Change Authority (Melbourne): 0

The Climate Change Authority has employed a contractor responsible for a number of communication requirements including work in relation to the release of the *Target's and Progress Review Final Report*.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 0

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 1

APS 6: 1

National Water Commission (Canberra): 0

Director of National Parks (Canberra): 0

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0

- d) Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent graphic designers and are current at 1 March 2014.

The Department (Canberra): 1

The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 0

The Department (Tasmania): 2*

Two multimedia staff have graphic design qualifications. This makes up about one-third of their work tasks. They work across a number of media supporting a range of communications products including print, video and other digital media.

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to question (a).

Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 3*

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to question (a) and (b).

Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 0

Climate Change Authority (Melbourne): 0

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 1*

* This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question (a).

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 1*

* This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question (a).

National Water Commission (Canberra): 0

Director of National Parks (Canberra): 0

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 0

- e) Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent media managers whose core responsibility is media management. These figures are current at 1 March 2014.

The Department (Canberra)

Departmental communication staff provide a range of internal and external communications services, which may include media management and liaison as part of their duties. The figures for departmental communications staff are provided in the response to question (a).

The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 0

The Department (Tasmania): 2*

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to question (a).

Bureau of Meteorology (all offices): 10*

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to question (a). Media management is considered to be part of a number of positions' overall duties. Each region has a person who is media trained and available to help with operational media enquiries and communication, particularly during severe weather events.

Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 1*

*This position is not additional to the figure provided in response to question (c).

Climate Change Authority (Melbourne): 0

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 2*

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to question (a).

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 1*

* This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question (a).

National Water Commission (Canberra): 0

There are no positions in the National Water Commission that have media management as their sole responsibility. However, two of the staff listed under (a) have media management responsibilities in addition to a number of other duties.

Director of National Parks

The figures for communication staff are provided in the response to question (a).

In addition, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park has one APS 5 and one APS 4 processing film and photography permits and accompanying film crews on the ground and Kakadu National Park has a part time APS 4 who processes media permits and facilitates film crews on the ground.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 1*

* This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question (b).

- f) Unless otherwise indicated, the following figures are expressed as full time equivalent event managers whose only responsibility is event management. These figures are current at 1 March 2014.

The Department (Canberra)

Departmental communication staff provide a range of internal and external communications services, which may include event management as part of their duties. The figures for departmental communication staff are provided in the response to question (a).

The Department (Darwin/Jabiru): 0**The Department (Tasmania): 1***

* This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question (a).

Bureau of Meteorology (Melbourne): 2.5*

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to questions (a) and (b). Event management is considered part of responsibilities for ten staff. The actual commitment varies between 10 and 30 per cent of their total duties.

Clean Energy Regulator (Canberra): 1*

*This position is not additional to the figures provided in response to question (a).

Climate Change Authority (Melbourne): 0**Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Townsville): 8***

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to questions (a) and (b).

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (Canberra): 0

National Water Commission (Canberra): 0

There are no positions in the National Water Commission that have event management as a core responsibility, however, communication staff may be involved in organising events from time to time.

Director of National Parks (Canberra)

The figures for communication staff are provided in the response to question (a).

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Sydney): 2*

* These positions are not additional to the figures provided in response to question (b).