Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio Additional Estimates Hearing 2009-10 10 February 2010

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: Staffing

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Eggleston

QUESTION No.: AI-1

- 1. What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?
- 2. What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers? What is the breakdown by location?
- 3. What have been the changes in average staffing levels since 26 November 2007? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications?
- 4. How many temporary employees and temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates?
- 5. In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions have been sacrificed and why?
- 6. Has there been a target for staff reductions to achieve savings from 26 November 2007? What is that target and what strategy is being implemented to achieve this?
- 7. Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff since 26 November 2007? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future? If so how many, when and where?
- 8. Since supplementary budget estimates, how many employees who are employed under the Public Service Act have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (Does not apply to consultancies)
- 9. How many permanent staff have been recruited since supplementary budget estimates? What are the levels of these staff?

ANSWER

1. The total expenditure on staffing for the Department and each agency within the portfolio is detailed in their 2008-09 Annual Reports. The following table provides a breakdown of these expenses.

Agency	Total 2008-09	SES
	\$m	\$m
Department of Innovation,	163.5	12.4
Industry, Science and Research		
Australian Institute of Aboriginal	8.4	0.9
and Torres Strait Islander Studies		
Australian Institute of Marine	19.0	0.6
Science		
Australian Nuclear Science and	86.4	3.8
Technology Organisation		
Australian Research Council	10.2	1.9
Commonwealth Scientific and	639.2	12.0
Industrial Research Organisation		
IP Australia	88.5	1.5

2. Employees by Classification and Location as at 31 January 2010

Level	ACT	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	Overseas	Total
APS1	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
APS2	20	15	17	0	0	3	0	0	0	55
APS3	50	19	9	1	2	3	1	0	0	85
APS4	136	56	7	3	2	7	2	0	0	213
APS5	162	40	14	3	2	4	0	0	0	225
APS6	302	83	73	12	8	20	5	2	0	505
EL1	435	90	34	12	5	4	4	2	0	586
EL2	183	54	26	11	8	11	5	2	1	301
CRS1*	0	12	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	15
CRS2*	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
SES1	32	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	39
SES2	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
SES3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total	1,447	388	183	42	27	53	17	6	1	2,053

Please note: The above table does not include casual employees.

- 3. The average staffing level (ASL) disclosed in the 2008-09 Portfolio Budget Statements for 2007-08 was 1,913. The ASL disclosed in the 2009-10 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements (PAES) was 1,896. Staff changes over the period in question are a direct result of Machinery of Government changes and decisions taken by Government as part of the Budget process.
- 4. Since budget estimates 165 non ongoing employees have commenced (this figure is correct as at 31 January 2010).
- 5. Staffing changes (up to 31 January 2010) are a direct result of Machinery of Government changes and decisions taken by Government as part of the Budget process. Accordingly, these movements and the related financial implications, are considered as part of the Department's annual business planning process. Other than Budget decisions which are disclosed in the Budget papers there has been limited impact on specific functions within the Department.

^{*} Chief Research Scientist

- 6. As at 31 January 2010, no target has been set for staff reductions to achieve savings.
- 7. As at 31 January 2010, there have been a number of voluntary and involuntary redundancies offered since 26 November 2007. Employees were identified for such offers because of economic, structural, organisational or technological change. At this point there are no such plans for the future.
- 8. Since supplementary budget estimates, 71 non ongoing employees have been employed under the *Public Service Act*. The average length of their employment contract is 8.1 months.
- 9. Since supplementary budget estimates there have been 49 permanent staff recruited (this figure is correct as at 31 January 2010). The levels of these staff are:

APS Level 4	4
APS Level 5	7
APS Level 6	14
Executive Level 1	18
Executive Level 2	5
SES Band 2	1