

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

1 June – 3 June 2010

Question: BET 151

Topic: Staffing – Efficiency Dividend/ Budget Cuts (ASIC)

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Barnett asked:

1. Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?
 - a) Since the efficiency dividend was introduced?
 - b) Since additional estimates (8 February 2010)?
2. If so, where and at what level?
3. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.
4. If your Department/agency has been identified in the budget as delivering further efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, if the budget papers say 'improvement to strategic work practices' or similar, what are these and how will they be delivered?)
5. What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.

Answer:

- 1a. No
- 1b. No
2. Not applicable.
3. For the 2010/11 financial year, ASIC has planned to manage employee numbers within its budget allocation without an ASIC wide redundancy program for staff reductions. It will manage staff numbers through such measures as natural attrition, outward secondments and halting non-essential recruitment. Therefore we do not expect any significant impact on services and programs.
4. ASIC was not identified in the budget papers as being required to deliver further efficiencies.
5. We are planning to keep our graduate intake at the same levels as we have in the past few years ie 25 per year.

ENDS