

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

**Budget Estimates**

1 June – 3 June 2010

**Question: BET 152**

**Topic: Staffing – Efficiency Dividend/ Budget Cuts (PC)**

**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:**

**Productivity Commission**

1. a) Yes  
b) Yes.
2. Adjustments have been made in both Melbourne and Canberra offices at each staff level.
3. The Portfolio Budget Statements (p.330) show a reduction in forecast average staffing level of two staff. This reduction will be achieved through natural attrition.
4. Not applicable.
5. There are no changes planned for graduate recruitment.