

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2012-13
28 and 29 May 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

TOPIC: Total Wages Bill

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, Monday 28 May 2012, page 103)

QUESTION No.: BI-46

Senator Nash: How many people are currently employed by Skills Australia?

Mr Shreeve: We have currently got 31 people in positions.

Senator NASH: And how many of those actually work in a research capacity?

Mr Shreeve: There is a mixture of policy and research, so we have lots of people with PhDs. They are writing policy but they have to research about policy. So we do some of our research ourselves and we also contract out some research.

Senator NASH: Is there any way of giving some sort of sense, or is it just impossible to split the two?

Mr Shreeve: I think it would be at least 50 per cent of the people are actively—

Senator NASH: Doing some sort of research?

Mr Shreeve: We are doing secondary research. We are reading NCVER, international papers and things like that. For example, for some of our projects we do industry surveys as well.

Senator NASH: What is the total wages bill for the staff?

Mr Shreeve: It is about half a million dollars.

Senator NASH: If you take on notice the exact figure, that would be great.....

ANSWER

The total wages bill for Skills Australia for the period 1 June 2011 to 30 May 2012 was \$3.1 million.