

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2012-2013**

Cross Portfolio

DEEWR Question No. EW0840_13

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Efficiency

Please provide an update of the savings achieved through pursuing further efficiencies in the way the public service operates (see media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State of 25 September 2012 http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_1982012.html). In addition, please provide the following detail: Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for reductions in air travel? Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates? Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates? Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates? Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much? Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not, why not? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer

The estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates period for the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) are:

	2012-13	Each year 2013-14 to
	\$'000	2015-16
		\$'000
Travel	1,013	1,013
Consultants/Contractors	1,517	1,030
Recruitment Advertising	45	45
Printing	108	108
Total	2,683	2,196

DEEWR continues to promote only necessary travel and better use of multimedia for meetings and communications. There has been a significant reduction in business flights compared to the same period last year.

There has been a reduction in the use of external contractors and consultants. There has not been an impact on DEEWR.

The booking and placement of DEEWR advertising in print media has been done in line with the Department of Finance and Deregulation issued Non-Campaign Recruitment Advertising Policy.

The Department has reduced printing costs.