

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Efficiency Dividend/Staffing

Senator: Humphries

Question reference number: F80

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 March 2012

Number of pages:

Question:

- a) What is the effect of the efficiency dividend increase from 1.5 percent to 4 percent on the department/agency's budget bottom line during the financial years 2012/12, 13/14, 14/15?
- b) What percentage of the department/agency's budget is designated to staffing?
- c) What is the size of the department/agency's staffing establishment? Include figures for FTE, PT, casual, contractors and consultants?
- d) What specific strategies will the department/agency adopt to ensure continued operation within budget?
- e) Will or has consideration been made to reducing the staffing compliment including contractors and consultants?

Answer:

The efficiency dividend has not been increased from 1.5 percent to 4 percent across the budget and forward years.

For the financial impact of the additional one-off efficiency dividend increase, refer Finance and Deregulation Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2011-12, page 15.

- a) Refer to *Finance and Deregulation Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2011-12*, page 42.
- b) As at 31 January (based on headcount):

Full time staff	1,595
Part time staff	156
Casual staff	310
Contractors	96
TOTAL	2,157

- c) – e) The Department has assessed that it will be able to operate within its budget through a combination of non-staffing related efficiencies (including reductions in the use of consultants and contractors), natural attrition and making structural changes, without the need for a round of either compulsory or voluntary redundancies.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Electoral Commission

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Efficiency Dividend/Staffing

Senator: Humphries

Question reference number: F80

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 March 2012

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) What is the effect of the efficiency dividend increase from 1.5% to 4% on the department/agency's budget bottom line during financial years 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15?
- b) What percentage of the department/agency's budget is designated to staffing?
- c) What is the size of the department/agency's staffing establishment? Include figures for FTE, PT, casual, contractors and consultants.
- d) What specific strategies will the department/agency adopt to ensure continued operation within budget?
- e) Will or has consideration been made to reducing staffing complement including contractors, and consultants?

Answer:

a)

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
\$m	2.4	4.3	2.3

- b) The AEC, on average, spends 56 per cent of its annual budget on staffing.
- c) As at 31 January 2012, the AEC employed a total of 852 FTE of which 45 FTE were casuals and 96.6 FTE were part-time. In addition, at that point in time the AEC had 20.5 FTE contractors and 3 consultants employed.
- d) Efficiencies will be achieved by:
 - i. making general cuts to operating budgets across the AEC;
 - ii. focussing activity on priority work such as implementing the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters; and

- iii. directing activity to most value for money options such as use of mailouts to maintain the electoral roll.
- e) The AEC will manage costs on an ongoing basis, which will include a continued assessment of the most efficient level of staffing including the necessity for contractors and consultants.

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Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Efficiency dividend / staffing

Senator: Humphries

Question reference number: F80

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 March 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) What is the effect of the efficiency dividend increase from 1.5 percent to 4 percent on the department/agency's budget bottom line during financial years 2012/13, 13/14, 14/15?
- b) What percentage of the department/agency's budget is designated to staffing?
- c) What is the size of the department/agency's staffing establishment? Include figures for FTE, PT, casual, contractors, and consultants.
- d) What specific strategies will the department/agency adopt to ensure continued operation within budget?
- e) Will or has consideration been made to reducing staffing compliment including contractors, and consultants?

Answer:

- a) N/A.
- b) In respect of public monies, 46 per cent.
- c) FTE: 53.64; PT: 5; casual: 4; consultants: 2.
- d) Staff are only engaged to meet business requirements.
- e) No.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Future Fund Management Agency

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Efficiency Dividend

Senator: Humphries

Question reference number: F80

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 March 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) What is the effect of the efficiency dividend increase from 1.5 percent to 4 percent on the department/agency's budget bottom line during financial years 2012/13, 13/14, 14/15?
- b) What percentage of the department/agency's budget is designated to staffing?
- c) What is the size of the department/agency's staffing establishment? Include figures for FTE, PT, casual, contractors, and consultants.
- d) What specific strategies will the department/agency adopt to ensure continued operation within budget?
- e) Will or has consideration been made to reducing staffing complement including contractors, and consultants?

Answer:

- a) The efficiency dividend is not applied to the Future Fund Management Agency, as it is not funded through Appropriations.
- b) Please refer to the 2011-12 portfolio budget statement which shows staffing costs are approximately 70 per cent of total agency costs.
- c) FTE: 78; PT: 4; Casual: 1; Contractors: 5
- d) The Future Fund Management Agency and the Board of Guardians monitor expenditure against budget monthly.
- e) No specific plans are in place to reduce staff numbers.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: ComSuper
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Efficiency Dividend/Staffing

Senator: Humphries
Question reference number: F80
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 March 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) What is the effect of the efficiency dividend increase from 1.5 percent to 4 percent on the department/agency's budget bottom line during financial years 2012/13, 13/14, 14/15?
- b) What percentage of the department/agency's budget is designated to staffing?
- c) What is the size of the department/agency's staffing establishment? Include figures for FTE, PT, casual, contractors, and consultants.
- d) What specific strategies will the department/agency adopt to ensure continued operation within budget?
- e) Will or has consideration been made to reducing staffing compliment including contractors, and consultants?

Answer:

- a) ComSuper will manage its budgeted expenses to align with the prevailing financial circumstances and deliver a balanced result in the forward years.
- b) The percentage of ComSuper's budget attributed to staffing at 2011-12 MYEFO was 51 per cent.
- c) As at 31 January 2012, ComSuper had 469.9 FTE. The FTE total comprised of 429.1 full-time, 40.3 part-time, and 0.5 casual employees. In addition to the APS employees, as at the 31 of January 2012 ComSuper had 14 contractors and 0 consultants.
- d) ComSuper is in the process of implementing a number of cost saving initiatives aimed at reducing administrative costs to ensure continued operation within budget for the forward years minimising the impact on staff numbers.
- e) ComSuper has reviewed its staffing, contractor and consultant compliment as part of its overall cost reduction strategy. Implementation of the proposed administrative cost reduction strategy will minimise the impact on the current staffing compliment. It is intended to manage reductions in staff through natural attrition.