

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 13-16 Feb 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.4 Support Services for Government Operations

Topic: Contractors

Senator: Senator Humphries

Question reference number: 79

Type of Question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. How many contractors are currently employed in the department/agency?
2. How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 2 years?
3. How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 5 years?
4. How many contractors have been under contract for a period of more than 10 years?
5. Does the department/agency make a habit of employing contractors to fill positions on a permanent basis?

Answer:

1. As at 31 January 2012, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has 15 contractors employed.
2. Three contractors have been employed under contract for a period of more than two years.
- 3+4. There are no contractors who have been under contract for a period of more than five years.
5. The department does not have a habit of employing contractors to fill positions on a permanent basis. Contractors are hired on an ad-hoc basis, for technical expertise that cannot be sourced at the time under the Australian Public Service employment conditions.