

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2013

Department/Agency: Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1
Topic: Making the Public Service More Efficient

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: 46

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 April 2013

Number of pages:2

Question: 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:

As a very small agency with minimal spending on travel, recruitment advertisement and printing, the additional savings achieved have been limited.

OIGIS is a very small agency with limited routine domestic air travel, however this can fluctuate in the event of any inquiries requiring interstate travel. Domestic air travel for 2011/12 was \$19,222. Forecast expenditure on air travel is \$2,873 for 2012/13 and \$4,000 for 2013/14, notwithstanding any unanticipated travel in relation to inquiries.

Since January 2012, OIGIS has reduced the use of external legal consultants by recruiting a staff member with legal qualifications. No further efficiencies can be made in this area.

All recruitment advertisement for OIGIS is already online therefore there is no opportunity for further savings in this area.

As the Annual Report is the only publication printed by OIGIS, and it already prints the minimum copies required, there are no further savings able to be achieved in this area. The printing costs for the annual report have been reduced for 2012/13 and 2013/14 (from approximately \$16,000 in 2011/12 to \$8,969 in 2012/13 and \$8,000 in 2013/14).