

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 2013-14, February 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of National Assessments

Outcome/Program: 1

Topic: Staffing reductions

Senator: Senator Ludwig

Question reference number: 183

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 April 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? What was the reason for these reductions?
2. Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.
3. Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.
4. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.
5. Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.
6. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? What classification were these staff?
7. How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? What classification were these staff?

ONA Response:

1. ONA has not replaced four staff that left voluntarily in the period from 18 November 2013 to 28 February 2014, and three vacant positions have been abolished as a result of internal restructuring during the same period.
2. No.
3. ONA will continue to closely monitor staff numbers to ensure budget targets are achieved and any future reductions will flow from considered workforce planning, natural attrition, or voluntary redundancies.
4. Staff reductions are required to allow ONA to remain within its budget allocation.
5. There are no plans at this stage to offer involuntary redundancies.
6. Four ongoing staff members left ONA between 18 November 2013 and 28 February 2014. Their classifications are as follows:
 - 2 x ONA Band 3 (EL2)
 - 2 x ONA Band 1A (APS5/6)
7. One non-ongoing staff member left ONA between 18 November 2013 and 28 February 2014. They were classified as an ONA Band 1C (APS1/2).