

Senate Finance & Public Administration Legislation Committee

Hansard Tuesday 25 May 2004

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Australian Public Service Commission

Budget Estimates 2004 - 05

Question: PM 30

Topic: Total cost to government of performance bonuses

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Senator Forshaw asked: What is the total cost to government of performance bonuses paid to Departmental Secretaries?

Answer:

For the financial year 2002-03, performance bonuses paid to Departmental Secretaries came to an estimated total of \$555,000.

Note: This figure was calculated using the ratings assigned by the Prime Minister to each Secretary eligible for consideration for performance bonuses for 2002-03, and the appropriate percentage (10% for a rating of Superior, 15% for a rating of Outstanding) of total remuneration payable to Secretaries in the 12 months at 30 June 2003. Pro rata estimates were made regarding cases where individual Secretaries eligible for performance bonuses did not occupy those offices for the full 12 months. In total, 19 people held Secretary positions in 2002-03, and were eligible for performance pay (there are 17 Portfolio Secretary positions). Actual payments made following the assessments for 2002-03 performance would have differed from the above total, as there was a change in assessment periods at this time (from a 1 April to 31 March cycle to a 1 July to 30 June cycle).