

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2006

Question: F46

Outcome 3, Output 3.1.2

Topic: COMCAR Drivers

Written Question on Notice

Senator Carr asked:

- (1) What is the Department's current policy on the re-employment of former COMCAR drivers?
- (2) Have you received expressions of interest from former COMCAR drivers wishing to return to this employment? How many have you received starting 2003-04 until the present?
- (3) How many have been re-employed, casually or otherwise, in each year starting 2003-04?
- (4) What are the current total numbers of COMCAR drivers on the Department's books: full-time, part-time and casual (please provide these details separately) by state territory? Please provide this information for 2003-04 and 2004-05.
- (5) Is it intended to employ more drivers? Please provide the anticipated establishment numbers, by state/territory and by employment status (full-time, part-time and casual) for the remainder of 2005-06 and for 2006-07

Answer:

- (1) The Department's current policy on the re-employment of all staff, including former COMCAR drivers, is that they are able to apply for advertised vacancies and compete on merit, on the same basis as other applicants, provided they have not accepted a redundancy package within the previous twelve (12) months.
- (2) Yes. Eight (8) expressions of interest have been received starting 2003-04 until the present.
- (3) Nil in 2003-04;
Two (2) in 2004-05 through merit selection processes; and
Nil in 2005-06.

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(4) The total number of drivers are as follows:

Ongoing Drivers

State/Territory	31 May 2006	30 June 2005	30 June 2004
ACT	9	10	11
NSW	5	6	6
VIC	8	9	10
QLD	1	2	2
SA	2	3	3
WA	1	2	2
TAS	1	1	1
Total	27	33	35

Non-ongoing Drivers

State/Territory	31 May 2006	30 June 2005	30 June 2004
ACT	109	78	98
NSW	25	21	25
VIC	18	13	14
QLD	10	12	8
SA	5	6	6
WA	5	5	5
TAS	-	-	-
Total	172	135	156

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Contractor Drivers

State/Territory	31 May 2006	30 June 2005	30 June 2004
ACT	17	39	25
NSW	19	13	7
VIC	2	5	-
QLD	5	-	-
SA	3	-	-
WA	1	1	-
TAS	-	-	-
Total	47	58	32

(5) Yes. The currently anticipated establishment numbers by state/territory and by employment status for the remainder of 2005-06 and for 2006-07 are as follows:

Ongoing Drivers

State/Territory	2005-06	2006-07
ACT	9	9
NSW	5	5
VIC	8	7
QLD	1	1
SA	2	2
WA	1	1
TAS	1	1
Total	27	26

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Non-ongoing Drivers

State/Territory	2005-06	2006-07
ACT	120	120
NSW	30	30
VIC	19	19
QLD	10	12
SA	8	8
WA	7	7
TAS	-	-
Total	194	196

Contractor Drivers

State/Territory	2005-06	2006-07
ACT	7	7
NSW	8	8
VIC	-	1
QLD	2	-
SA	-	-
WA	-	-
TAS	-	-
Total	17	16