

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing 21-24 May 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.3 Support Services for Government Operations

Topic: Staffing reduction

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 81

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 6 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.
2. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening

Answer:

1. The department will reduce its staffing level by 40 positions by 1 July 2012. Most of these reductions will be achieved by natural attrition.
2. The staff reductions are required in order to manage the Department's expenditure within budget, together with other efficiencies such as reducing expenditure on travel, advertising, consultants and contractors.