

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman

Outcome/Program: Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman

Topic: Staffing – Staff reductions

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 128

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

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.

If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.

Answer:

The Ombudsman has more staff than provided for in this year's budget. The Office has funding for an average staffing level of around 149 this financial year. At the beginning of the year we had 172 staff, in total reducing to an estimated 157 staff by the end of November. Staffing reductions will continue throughout the financial year. Staffing resources will be reduced in areas of discretionary work.