

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 17-20 October 2011

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: All

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 i.e. 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 department has estimated that average staffing levels will fall slightly from levels as at 30 June 2011 due to a range of factors such as:

- the conclusion of the Commonwealth Heads of Governments Meeting;
- the establishment of the National Mental Health Commission during 2012; and
- terminating measures and programs such as the Enhanced Research Support for Counter-Terrorism Grants program and the conclusion of the Independent Review of the Australian Intelligence Community.