SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

People, Information and Technology Division

Question No. 2

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 19 October 2009:

Since Budget Estimates;

a)   how many employees have been employed on contract, and what is the average length of their employment period,

b)   have staff numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts? If so, where and at what level, and

c)   are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, provide relevant details.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Since Budget Estimates;

a)   Since 28 May 2009, 35 new employees have been employed on non-ongoing contracts. The average length of the employment period was 116 days.

b)   Since Budget Estimates there has been an overall reduction of 78.1 FTE. Staffing numbers are determined by a range of factors including the effect of the efficiency dividend, the impact of salary increases, changes in overall priorities and the alignment of resources to those priorities.

At the following levels:

Classification	28 May 2009			19 October 2009		
	Ongoing (FTE)	Non-Ongoing (FTE)	Total FTE	Ongoing (FTE)	Non-Ongoing (FTE)	Total FTE
APSL 1-2	24.25	6.2	30.45	22.5	4.09	26.59
Grad	44	0	44	43	0	43
APSL 3	67.21	33.8	101.01	69.06	25	94.06
APSL 3-4	6	2	8	9.5	1	10.5
APSL 4	95.24	21.4	116.64	91.57	14.4	105.97
APSL 4-5	24	7	31	28	6.8	34.8
APSL 5	118.45	7.6	126.05	107.72	2.6	110.32
APSL 5-6	38.7	1	39.7	38.2	1	39.2
APSL 6	183.83	8.6	192.43	171.3	8.92	180.22
LO	80.33	8	88.33	71.13	8	79.13

EL1	270.91	5	275.91	250.37	4	254.37
SLO	105.19	4	109.19	99.96	5	104.96
EL2	118.83	5.4	124.23	117.43	3	120.43
PLO	83.91	5	88.91	88.81	4.6	93.41
SES B1	64.85	1.96	66.81	68.6	1	69.6
SES B2 & 3	25	1	26	24	0	24
Total	1350.7	117.96	1468.66	1301.15	89.41	1390.56
Reduction in Total FTE (28 May 2009 to 19 October 2009)				49.55	28.55	78.1

c)   The Attorney-General's Department has no plans for staff reduction.