

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 01

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Staffing (Permanent) since Additional Budget Estimates

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

How many permanent staff recruited since additional estimates (Feb 2010)?

What level are these staff?

**Answer:**

17 staff for the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

| <b>Classification</b> | <b>Number</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Graduate APS3         | 1             |
| APS 5                 | 3             |
| APS 6                 | 1             |
| EL 1                  | 6             |
| EL 2                  | 1             |
| SES Band 1            | 4             |
| SES Band 2            | 1             |

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Budget Estimates May 2010**

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 02

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Staffing (Temporary) since Additional Budget Estimates

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

How many temporary positions exist or have been created since additional estimates?

**Answer:**

Positions are not identified as temporary.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 03

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Staffing (Contracts) since Additional Budget Estimates

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

Since additional estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?

**Answer:**

Since Additional Budget Estimates to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010, 43 contractors have been employed by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government with the average length of contract being 10.95 weeks.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 04

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Budget Cuts/Efficiency Effects on Staffing

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

- 1) Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?
  - a) Since the efficiency dividend was introduced?
  - b) Since additional estimates?
- 2) If so, where and at what level?

**Answer:**

For the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government:

- 1) (a) No  
(b) No
- 2) N/A

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 05

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Staff Reduction Plans

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

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.

**Answer:**

No

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 06

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Budget Cuts/Efficiency Effects on Staffing

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

If your Department/agency has been identified in the budget as delivering further efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, if the budget papers say 'improvement to strategic work practices' or similar) what are these and how will they be delivered?

**Answer:**

Not applicable.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 07

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Graduate Recruitment Plans

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.

**Answer:**

The Department is yet to finalise its Graduate intake for 2011.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 08

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Department Communication Programs

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

Government Advertising

What communications programs has the Department/Agency undertaken since additional estimates and what communications programs are planned to be undertaken?

For each program, what is the total spend?

(by 'communications program' it is meant communication of a government message to the public – possibly by advertising (print, television etc), possibly through the erection of signs, plaques etc, or through other mediums. The recent (current) Government TV advertising campaign on health reform and specific health initiatives are examples, BER signage is an example, advertising on the Government's proposed new tax system would be another example.)

A breakdown of how much was spent/is planned to be spent on each program/initiative should be provided.

**Answer:**

Since February 2010 the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government has not undertaken any paid advertising (excluding recruitment and public notice advertising).

In the period from February 2010 to 23 June 2010 expenditure on the production and distribution of Ministerial Plaques totalled \$679.14.



**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 09

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Hospitality

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD?

Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

For each Minister/Par Sec's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD.

Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

**Answer:**

Hospitality spend for the 2009-10 financial year to 31 May 2010 totalled \$73,767.32 for departmental officers and non-departmental officers.

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government does not record this level of detail in its Financial Management Information System.

Hospitality spend by the Ministers' and Parliamentary Secretaries' offices was \$592.02.

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government does not record this level of detail in its Financial Management Information System.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 10

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Board Appointments

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

Board Appointments

What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?

What is the gender ratio of appointments made to boards since the Government came to office in November 2007?

**Answer:**

1. As at 18 June 2010 for the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

| <b>Board</b>                          | <b>Total members</b> | <b>Male</b>   | <b>Female</b> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Airservices Australia                 | 8                    | 6<br>(75%)    | 2<br>(25%)    |
| Australian Maritime Safety Authority  | 8                    | 8<br>(100%)   | -             |
| Australian Transport Safety Bureau    | 3                    | 2<br>(66.7%)  | 1<br>(33.3%)  |
| Australian Rail Track Corporation     | 6                    | 5<br>(83.3%)  | 1<br>(16.7%)  |
| Civil Aviation Safety Authority       | 5                    | 4<br>(75%)    | 1<br>(25%)    |
| International Air Services Commission | 2<br>(plus 1 vacant) | 1<br>(50%)    | 1<br>(50%)    |
| Infrastructure Australia              | 12                   | 10<br>(83.3%) | 2<br>(16.7%)  |
| National Road Safety Council          | 7                    | 5             | 2             |

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

|                               |                       |               |               |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                               |                       | (71.4%)       | (28.6%)       |
| National Transport Commission | 5                     | 4<br>(80%)    | 1<br>(20%)    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                  | 56<br>(plus 1 vacant) | 45<br>(80.4%) | 11<br>(19.6%) |

2. As at 18 June 2010 there have been 54 appointments (including re-appointments) made to boards since the Government came into office in November 2007.

| <b>Total appointments</b> | <b>Male</b>   | <b>Female</b> |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 54                        | 43<br>(79.6%) | 11<br>(20.4%) |

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 11

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Grants

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

Grants

Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?

**Answer:**

Yes.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 12

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Freedom of Information (FOI) Requests

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

Freedom of Information

- 1) Has the Department/agency received any advice from the Government or any other source on how to respond to FOI requests?
- 2) How many FOI requests has the Department received?
- 3) How many have been granted or denied?
- 4) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?

**Answer:**

- 1) No
- 2) The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government received 36 FOI requests in 2009-10.
- 3) 16 applicants received full or part information and 5 applications were refused.
- 4) None.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 13

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Community Cabinet Costings (Minister's office and Department) since  
Additional estimates

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

Community Cabinets

- 1) What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since additional estimates?
- 2) How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meeting?
- 3) What was the total cost of this travel?
- 4) What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?

**Answer:**

- 1) The ministerial costs associated with Community Cabinet meetings are a matter for the Department of Finance and Deregulation.
- 2) One departmental officer has attended each Community Cabinet meeting held since additional estimates.
- 3) \$4,358 including accommodation.
- 4) \$4,358 departmental costs. The ministerial costs associated with Community Cabinet meetings are a matter for the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 14

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Status of Reviews

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

Reviews

- 1) What is the total number of Reviews both completed and ongoing in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007?
- 2) Please provide a breakdown of reviews completed since the government came to office (only those commenced after the current government came to office) including:
  - a) when those reviews were provided to Government,
  - b) estimated cost of producing each review (and total cost) and
  - c) if the Government has responded to the review or information about when the Government has indicated it will/will not respond to the review.
- 3) How many reviews are ongoing?
- 4) How many reviews have been completed since additional estimates?
- 5) What further reviews are planned in the portfolio/agency?

**Answer:**

- 1) 9
- 2) 5 reviews have been completed
  - a) 1 review provided to Government in May 2009, 1 review provided to Government in June 2009, 1 review provided to Government in September 2009 and 2 reviews provided to Government in December 2009.
  - b) All reviews were funded from within departmental resources.
  - c) The Government has responded to 2 reviews.
- 3) 4
- 4) Nil
- 5) Nil

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 15

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Consultancies

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

Consultancies - All answers should be current at the time the answer is submitted.

- 1) How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since November 2007? Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the contract, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc).
- 2) Please also include total value for all consultancies, including figures for total spending on consultancies and also value of contracts awarded? Provide total figures since November 2007 and a breakdown on these figures for FY 2008/09 and 2009/10 FYTD.
- 3) Is the Department/agency up to date with its reporting requirements on the Government's tenders and contacts website? Are the figures available on that site correct?
- 4) How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, projected cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.

**Answer:**

- 1 & 2) Departmentally contracted consultancy services have been reported on AusTender.
- 3) AusTender data is updated on a weekly basis.
- 4) The 2009-2010 Annual Procurement Plan is published on AusTender and does not have any consultancies planned to begin this calendar year. The 2010-2011 Annual Procurement Plan is available on the AusTender website.



**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 16

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Government Payment of Accounts

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Barnett asked:**

Government Payment of Accounts

- 1) Has the portfolio/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (ie. within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.)
- 2) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
- 3) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

**Answer:**

- 1) For the period 1 July 2009 to 18 June 2010, the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government paid 98.9% of payments to contractors and consultants within 30 days of invoice receipt.
- 2) No interest has been paid on overdue accounts.
- 3) N/A

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question No.:** CORP 17

**Division/Agency:** Corporate Services

**Topic:** Departmental Buildings – Energy Efficiency Audit

**Hansard Page/s:** Written Question

**Senator Birmingham asked:**

**Buildings' energy efficiency**

Please list every building occupied by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

For each building:

- 1) Has an energy efficiency audit been undertaken?
- 2) If so, what rating was achieved and what action has been taken to improve energy efficiency as a result of any audit undertaken?

**Answer:**

1)

| <b>Building Address</b>                          | <b>Annual energy audit*</b> | <b>Action taken to improve energy efficiency</b>  |
|--|-----------------------------|---|
| 111 Alinga St - Canberra ACT                     | Yes                         | Installed energy efficient appliances and sensor lights in meeting rooms and bathrooms at time of refurbishment |
| 4 Mort St - Canberra ACT                         | Yes                         | Turned off lights in unoccupied areas.  |
| 62 Northbourne - Canberra ACT                    | Yes                         | Installed energy efficient appliances and sensor lights in meeting rooms and bathrooms at time of refurbishment |
| 24 Beaumont St - Newcastle NSW                   | Yes                         | Nil   |
| Level 1 - 179A Anson St - Orange NSW             | Yes                         | Nil   |
| 1 Crewe Pl Rosebery NSW                          | Yes                         | Nil   |
| 87-89 Market St - Wollongong NSW                 | Yes                         | Nil   |
| 126 Phillip St - Sydney NSW                      | Yes                         | Nil   |
| TIO Centre 24 Mitchell St - Darwin NT            | Yes                         | Nil   |
| Level 4 179 Turbot St Brisbane QLD               | Yes                         | Nil   |
| Tenancy 3A Da Vinci Business Park - Brisbane QLD | Yes                         | Nil   |

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2010

**Infrastructure and Transport**

|  |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|
| 155 Hugh St - Townsville QLD                       | Yes | Nil |
| 55 Currie St - Adelaide SA                         | Yes | Nil |
| Level 4 ANZ Building, 22 Elizabeth St - Hobart TAS | Yes | Nil |
| 52 Mitchell St - Bendigo VIC                       | Yes | Nil |
| 2 Lonsdale St - Melbourne VIC                      | Yes | Nil |
| Tullamarine Airport Suite 1194 - Melbourne VIC     | Yes | Nil |
| 2 George Wiencke Dve, Perth Airport - Perth WA     | Yes | Nil |
| 37 St Georges Terrace Perth WA                     | Yes | Nil |

The Energy Audit conducted does not provide ratings but outlines energy consumption used and actions to improve usage.