

Joint Standing Committee On Foreign Affairs, Defence And Trade

Review of the Defence Annual Report 2015-16 – 17 February 2017

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Defence

Topic: Recruitment – Critical Trades

Question reference number: 17

Senator: Snowdon

Type of question: asked on Friday, 17 February 2017, Hansard page 61

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 14 March 2017

Question:

Mr SNOWDON: That is good. Also, just in terms of recruitment, what ranges of critical trades are there, and what are the issues involved in recruiting for those critical trades at the moment?

VADM Griggs: We will take that on notice.

Answer:

Australian Defence Force categories classified as ‘critical’ are primarily in the Intelligence, Engineering and Medical streams.

For the Financial Year to 31 January 2017, Defence Force Recruiting has achieved 93 per cent of the permanent Australian Defence Force recruiting targets and 77 per cent of targets for identified critical categories.

Defence will continue to face some challenges in attracting and recruiting personnel for critical categories. Some engineering and technical occupations have national shortages, and strong growth in national demand for health practitioners and intelligence and policy analysts is forecast.