

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Social Services Portfolio**  
**2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programs**

**Question No: 795**

**Topic: Staff Transfers - Hiring**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Ludwig** asked:

How many new employees have been engaged on ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission?

1. For every ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, where their position is located, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates.

**Answer:**

Since the 2013 federal election, the Department of Social Services (DSS) engaged 74 employees on ongoing contracts. All 74 employees, including 68 that were engaged under DSS entry level employment programmes, had engagement processes underway prior to the Interim Arrangements, which require APSC approval.

Further data is not readily available and to answer the question would require a significant diversion of departmental resources.