Question No: 181(a)

Program 1.1

Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/2016

Topic: Communications Staff

Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:

1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:
2. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.
3. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
4. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
5. How many are graphic designers?
6. How many are media managers?
7. How many organise events?
8. Have these arrangements changed since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015? If yes, please detail.

Answer:

1. As at 31 January 2016, in the Department of Communications and the Arts (the Department), there were:
2. Nineteen ongoing staff engaged in public relations, communications and media. Classifications: 4 EL2 managers; 7 EL1 officers; and 8 APS6 officers. Two EL1 staff are located in Sydney and one EL2 officer works in the greater Sydney area, with remaining staff based in Canberra.
3. Nil
4. One contractor who works remotely is engaged at the EL1 level part-time to provide support for speeches and editorial work. The Department also has a contract for additional video and photography support, which is used as required.
5. Two staff at the APS6 level are graphic designers.
6. There are two EL2 staff who jointly manage media activities.
7. The Department does not have a staff member dedicated to events; this work is shared across teams as required.
8. Yes. In line with the change in Administrative Arrangement Orders, a small team joined the Department providing ongoing communications, media and public relations support to the Arts Division.