Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates 26 February 2014

Question: AET 1723-1728

Topic: Ministerial staff (ASIC)

Written: [07/03/2015]

Senator Bushby asked:

- 1723. How many officers were recruited by the department direct from Ministerial offices during the last parliament, whether on a temporary or ongoing basis?
 - a. How many former MOPS staff are now still employed in your Department or agency?
- 1724. How many of these recruits were loaned back to the Minister's offices after becoming staff of the department?
 - a. For what periods were these arrangements in place?
 - b. Who bore the costs during each of these 'loan back' arrangements, the department or the Minister's staffing budget?
- 1725. How many of these staff had worked in the department previously and how many years prior experience did such staff have in the department before being recruited?
- 1726. How many of your SES are former MoPS staff?
 - a. Of those, how many worked for the Rudd/Gillard Governments?
 - b. How many were promoted to SES level in the past 6 years?
- 1727. How many of the MoPs staff recruited during the past 6 years came to your Department or agency via the following means: Lateral transfer under the public service Act; recruitment in a bulk recruitment round; recruitment for a specific position?
- 1728. Were any recruited in the 2013 calendar year?
 - a. If so, on what grounds given the financial tightening beginning across government in that year?

Answer:

- 1723. ASIC is aware of one staff member recruited direct to ASIC from a Minister's office during the term of the last Parliament.
 - a. There are two former MOPs still employed at ASIC that we are aware of (1 SES and 1 non-SES).
- 1724. No ASIC staff have been loaned to Ministers' offices during the term of the last Parliament.
 - a. N/A
 - b. N/A

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- 1725. N/A
- 1726. ASIC has one SES staff member who worked as an adviser to Hon Joe Hockey MP, Minister for Financial Services and Regulation from 1998 2002.
 - a. There are no ASIC SES staff who worked in Ministers' offices for the Rudd/Gillard Government.
 - b. The SES staff member who previously worked in Mr Hockey's office was recruited to ASIC from the private sector in 2010.
- 1727. The non-SES staff member was recruited to ASIC after applying for a specific position and, as she was an existing Treasury employee, was transferred to ASIC from Treasury under the Public Service Act.
 - The SES staff member who previously worked in Mr Hockey's office was recruited from the private sector to ASIC after applying for a specific position.
- 1728. Yes, the non-SES staff member was recruited during the 2013 calendar year.

This staff member was recruited prior to the implementation of the recruitment freeze. ASIC continued to recruit during 2013 where this was necessary to deliver on the organisation's business objectives, in the context of the organisation's financial position.

Note: These answers have been prepared based on the best information available. A full review of the employment history of all employees has not been undertaken as this would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.