

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

Department of Employment Question No. EM0080_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

FWO - Non-ongoing contract extensions

"1. How many non-ongoing contracts have been extended by your department without the Public Service Commission's approval? 2. For every unapproved extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of the unapproved extension, the reasons why the extension was granted, whether the extension was submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval, and the reasons why the extension was granted without the approval of the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates."

Answer

One six month non-ongoing contract that commenced on 7 October 2013 was extended in April 2014. The length of the contract extension is 2 months and 26 days.

The non-ongoing contract is an Executive Level 1 position and the employee's wage is as per the wage levels in the Fair Work Ombudsman's Enterprise Agreement.

In accordance with the key principles of the interim recruitment arrangements that took effect on 31 October 2013, no approval was sought by the APS Commissioner. The extension was approved by our agency head in order to meet a critical business need.