

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

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

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM0412_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Temporary staff contracts

1. How much did the department/agency spend on temporary or contract staff since September 7th 2013?
2. How many temporary or contract staff were employed since September 7th 2013?
3. How many temporary or contract staff are currently employed?
4. How much was paid for agencies/companies to find temporary/contract staff?
5. How much is budgeted in the 2014/15 year for contract staff?
6. What policies/criteria govern the appointment of Contract staff?
7. How is the use of contract staff consistent with a professional, independent public service?

Answer

For details of how many non-ongoing employees have been employed by the department refer to the answer for EM0614_15.

As at 31 May 2014 the department had 18 non-ongoing employees.

2014/15 internal departmental budgets are yet to be finalised.

The engagement of third party contractors is governed by APS and departmental procurement policies. These policies establish the circumstances where it is appropriate to use contract staff.

The procurement and management of contractors is devolved. As such the process required to collate agency expenditure on contractors and/or non-ongoing employees would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.