

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

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

Agency - Asbestos Safety & Eradication Agency

Department of Employment Question No. EM0413_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

ASEA - 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

1. As of 15 June 2014, \$783, 354.70 has been spent on temporary and contract staff. This included \$670,977.27 for 14 Independent Monitors, which the Agency is being reimbursed for by Telstra and NBN Co.
2. 14 Independent Monitors and two Agency staff.
3. Two.
4. Nil.
5. Budget for contract staff has not been finalised.
- 6 The Agency complies *Public Service Regulations 1999* when appointing non-ongoing employees for a specified term contract and guidance from the Department of Employment and the Australian Public Service Commission. .
7. The use of qualified temporary contract staff allows the Agency to meet critical business demand and ensure efficient and effective delivery of service.