

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2014-2015

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM0520_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Staffing reductions

a) How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? What was the reason for these reductions? b) Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details. c) Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut. d) If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening. e) Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details. f) How many ongoing staff left the department/agency from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? What classification were these staff? g) How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency from Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date? What classification were these staff? h. What are the voluntary redundancy packages offered? Please detail for each staff level and position i. How do the packages differ from the default public service package? j. How is the department/agency funding the packages?

Answer

Between 1 March 2014 and 31 May 2014 the total number of employees in the department reduced from 1922 to 1888.

There have been no involuntary redundancies in the department over that period.

Fifteen employees in the department accepted voluntary redundancies between the federal election and 31 May 2014. Refer to the response to EM0607_15 for additional information about these voluntary redundancies.

To ensure the department continues to manage staffing levels consistent with its internal budget in 2014-15, a further approximately 65 employees will be made voluntarily redundant in June, July and August 2014. These redundancies are being funded from existing 2013-14 departmental appropriations.

Voluntary redundancy provisions for departmental employees are set out in the *DEEWR Enterprise Agreement 2012-2014*. A copy of this agreement can be found at www.fwc.gov.au.

The table below details the number and classification of ongoing and non-ongoing employees who left the department between 1 March 2014 and 31 May 2014.

Classification	Number of ongoing separations 1/3/2014 – 31/5/2014	Number of non-ongoing separations 1/3/2014 – 31/5/2014
EL2	4	0
EL1	12	4
APS6	5	10
APS5	5	0
APS4	1	1
APS2	0	1
Total	27	16