

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2014-2015

#### Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

Department of Employment Question No. EM0800\_15

Senator Cameron asked on 2 June 2014 on proof Hansard page 5

#### Question

#### FWO - Budget cuts

Ms James: Everyone in the Public Service is managing reductions. These have been in forward estimates for some time. They are not a surprise. There are sometimes some small variations that we get later notice of. From our point of view, we are managing through a number of mechanisms. We touched on this last time when we talked about some of the reductions in previous years. The first thing that we always do is look to reduce our non-labour costs—things like accommodation, lease cars, travel and supplier costs and the like. We have certainly attained some efficiencies on that front over the years. Mr Scully can talk at length about how we have managed that. Senator CAMERON: Save us the agony. You can take it on notice. Ms James: We also engage in a number of shared service arrangements. We share services with Fair Work Building and Construction—for example, our human resources services. We also have shared services arrangements with the Department of Employment. Our information technology and some other services are shared. So there are efficiencies to be found there. The second thing I would say is that— Senator CAMERON: What is the scope of efficiencies? What dollar amounts are you talking about? Those are rats and mice efficiencies, if I could put it that way. Ms James: I will ask Mr Scully to deal with the detail.....

#### Answer

Savings of over \$7 million have been identified by the Fair Work Ombudsman in the 2013-14 financial year compared to the 2010-11 financial year with the major items being listed in the following table:

	2010-11	2013-14	
	Actual (\$000s)	Estimate (\$000s)	Savings (\$000s)
IT MoU	8,991	6,654	2,337
Net accommodation	14,522	13,909	613
Telephony	3,543	1,415	2,128
Travel	3,659	2,493	1,166
Consultants	690	477	213
External Legal	2,839	2,208	631
Pool Cars	431	290	141
<b>Total</b>			<b>7,229</b>