

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018

Outcome: Agency: ASQA

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000570

Senator Cameron, Doug asked on 31 May 2017, Proof Hansard page 29

ASQA: auditing staff

Question

Senator CAMERON: How many in-house do you have? Does it vary?

Mr Paterson: It varies from time to time. I think the number would be in the ballpark of about 70. I will pull up a number for you as we go forward.

Senator CAMERON: Just a ballpark number. Over a 12-month period, how many auditors would you use who are contract auditors?

Mr Paterson: I would have to take that on notice, because that does vary quite markedly, if it were the total number of auditors used over a 12 month period. Can we pick a period?

Senator CAMERON: Last financial year?

Mr Paterson: In 2015-16?

Senator CAMERON: Yes. If it is easy, can you do 2014-15 and 2015-16?

Mr Paterson: We can.

Answer

The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) has provided the following response.

ASQA's auditors conduct site and desk based audits to assess provider compliance.

ASQA Audit Staff		
	14/15	15/16
Number of ASQA audit staff	65	79

Panel auditors are used to supplement capacity to conduct audits where ASQA does not have sufficient internal auditor capacity to conduct this work. ASQA has a panel of pre-approved businesses that have appropriately qualified and experienced auditors who can provide these services and these businesses are engaged via a Deed of Standing Offer.

Contract Auditors		
	14/15	15/16
Number of specified personnel involved in providing audit services	36	21