

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

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

Agency - Comcare

Department of Employment Question No. EM1106_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Comcare - Hiring

1. How many people are employed in your department on non-ongoing contracts?
2. How many people are employed in your department on ongoing contracts?
3. How many non-ongoing contracts has your department extended since the 2013 federal election? 4. How many non-ongoing contract extensions did your department submit the Public Service Commission for approval? 5. How many of these extensions were approved by the Public Service Commission? 1. For every approved extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of approved extension, the reasons why the extensions was submitted and the reasons why the extension was approved by the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates. 2. How many of these extensions were rejected by the Public Service Commission? a. For every rejected extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of extension sought by the department, the reasons why the extensions was submitted and the reasons why the extension was rejected by the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates. 3. How many non-ongoing contracts have been extended by your department without the Public Service Commission's approval? a. For every unapproved extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of the unapproved extension, the reasons why the extension was granted, whether the extension was submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval, and the reasons why the extension was granted without the approval of the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates. 4. How many non-ongoing contracts have expired without extension since the 2013 federal election? a. For every expired non-ongoing contract please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the reason why an extension was not sought, as well as all relevant dates. 5. How many new employees have been engaged by your department on non-ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election? 6. How many new non-ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2014 federal election? 7. How many of these new non-ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission? a. For every approved new engagement of a non-ongoing employee please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for approving this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application. 8. How many of

these new non-ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission? a. For every new non-ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details: APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, the reason for engaging the new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for rejecting this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application. 9. How many new employees have been engaged on non-ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission? a. For every non-ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates. 10. How many new employees have been engaged by your department on ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election? 11. How many new ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2013 federal election? 12. How many of these new ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission? a. For every approved new engagement of a ongoing employee please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for approving this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application. 13. How many of these new ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission? a. For every new ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details: APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, the reason for engaging the new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for rejecting this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application. 14. How many new employees have been engaged on ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission? a. For every ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates.

Answer

1. How many people are employed in your department on non-ongoing contracts?

37.

2. How many people are employed in your department on ongoing contracts?

619.

3. How many non-ongoing contracts has your department extended since the 2013 federal election?

Twenty-nine employees have had their contract extended since the 2013 federal election, totalling 51 contract extensions (some employees have had multiple extensions).

4. How many non-ongoing contract extensions did your department submit the Public Service Commission for approval?

Nil.

5. How many of these extensions were approved by the Public Service Commission?

Nil.

1. For every approved extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of approved extension, the reasons why the extensions was submitted and the reasons why the extension was approved by the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.

Nil.

2. How many of these extensions were rejected by the Public Service Commission?
a. For every rejected extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of extension sought by the department, the reasons why the extensions was submitted and the reasons why the extension was rejected by the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.

Nil.

3. How many non-ongoing contracts have been extended by your department without the Public Service Commission's approval? a. For every unapproved extension please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the length of the unapproved extension, the reasons why the extension was granted, whether the extension was submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval, and the reasons why the extension was granted without the approval of the Public Service Commission, as well as all relevant dates.

Fifty-one non-ongoing contracts have been extended. Approval by the Public Service Commission was not required. The classification of the 51 employees is set out below.

Classification	Number
EL 1	1
APS 6	5
APS 5	2
APS 4	10
APS 3	13
APS 2	20
Total	51

To source the information required to answer the balance of the question would represent an unreasonable diversion of department resources, and would tend to identify individuals.

4. How many non-ongoing contracts have expired without extension since the 2013 federal election? a. For every expired non-ongoing contract please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, their length of continuous employment by the APS, the reason why an extension was not sought, as well as all relevant dates.

Extensions were not required as either the contract was completed, or the employee had left prior to the completion of the contract.

5. How many new employees have been engaged by your department on non-ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election?

17.

6. How many new non-ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2013 federal election?

Nil.

7. How many of these new non-ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission? a. For every approved new engagement of a non-ongoing employee please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for approving this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.

Nil.

8. How many of these new non-ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission? a. For every new non-ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details: APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, the reason for engaging the new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for rejecting this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.

Nil.

9. How many new employees have been engaged on non-ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission? a. For every non-ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their non-ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates.

Seventeen non-ongoing employees have been engaged. The classification of the 17 employees is set out below.

Classification	Number
EL 1	2
APS 6	6
APS 5	3
APS 4	2
APS 3	3
APS 2	1
Total	17

Approval of the Public Service Commission was not required.

To source the information required to answer the balance of the question would represent an unreasonable diversion of department resources, and would tend to identify individuals.

10. How many new employees have been engaged by your department on ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election?

14.

11. How many new ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2013 federal election?

1.

12. How many of these new ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission? a. For every approved new engagement of a ongoing employee please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for approving this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.

There was one new ongoing engagement was approved by the Public Service Commission. The classification of this employee is set out below.

Classification	Number
EL 1	1
Total	1

The position was advertised externally as it had been advertised internally twice with no suitable applicants. The Public Service Commission determined that the skills required were highly specialised skills.

To source the information required to answer the balance of the question would identify the individual.

13. How many of these new ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission? a. For every new ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details: APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, the reason for engaging the new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for rejecting this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.

Nil.

14. How many new employees have been engaged on ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission? a. For every ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates.

Since 18 September 2013, 14 employees have been engaged as ongoing employees without the approval of the APSC. The classification of the 14 employees is set out below.

Classification	Number
SES 1	1
EL 2	1
EL 1	1
APS 6	4
APS 5	4
APS 4	3
Total	14

To source the information required to answer the balance of the question would represent an unreasonable diversion of department resources, and/or would tend to identify individuals.

Approval of the Public Service Commission was not required because either offers had been made prior to the introduction of the revised guidelines or were transfers of officers at existing levels within the Australian Public Service which do not require the approval of the Commissioner.