

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Cross Portfolio - Corporate

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000630

Senator Urquhart, Anne asked on 21 October 2015, Proof Hansard page 9

MoG: move costs to DSS and Education

Question

Senator URQUHART: So you said to close to 400 are moving back. Are you able to find out exactly what the numbers are?

Ms J Wilson: The numbers are not settled yet. That is the point we are raising. As Ms Paul said, it is not just staff in Canberra, where we are quite clear about who the childcare people are. It has to do with the legal area, the

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HR area, the accommodation area and the network staff. That has to be a negotiation which Ms Monkley is having with her colleagues in DSS.

Senator URQUHART: In the discussions, when will that move commence and how long will it actually take?

Ms Wilson: In terms of the process for this machinery-of-government change our understanding is that we are planning for a section 72 transfer to take place on 5 November and a physical relocation of the Canberra staff at least around 6 November. That is our planned timing at this stage.

Senator URQUHART: Are you able to get a clear, overall cost for the move to DSS and then the move back to Education for each location? Are you able to get that on notice, including the costs to DSS and Education?

Ms Wilson: I think we can take that on notice. I doubt whether my colleagues in DSS would have that at their fingertips.

Senator URQUHART: Can you work with DSS to get that answer and provide that to us?

Answer

The total number of staff transferred to the Department of Education and Training due to the September 2015 Machinery of Government changes is 429.

The cost of relocation of early childhood and corporate staff from the Department of Social Services (DSS) to the department was \$34,664.

The department does not have the details of the cost of relocating early childhood and corporate staff to the DSS.