

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

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

**Outcome: Agency: TEQSA**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000788**

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing.

***TEQSA - Staffing levels and resources***

**Question**

How is TEQSA travelling in terms of staffing levels and resources, following the substantial cut to the agency meted out in the 2014 Budget? Last time you reported to the Committee, you had 63 staff plus 11 contractors. What are your current staffing levels, and how do they compare with those applying prior to the 2014 Budget?

How is TEQSA managing to meet its responsibilities? Are you finding that you have sufficient staff and resources? What capacities and functions have gone, or been cut back?

**Answer**

The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) has provided the following response.

TEQSA developed a resourcing strategy in early June 2014 to address the Budget measure in two phases: in Phase 1, to immediately reduce administrative overheads to operate within the reduced 2014-15 allocation. The agency functions that were predominantly challenged were those in the corporate area.

In Phase 2, to develop strategies and forward plans to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the regulatory processes for the Agency to operate within its reduced budget in 2015-16 and beyond.

Staffing Levels for current and past years:

- 2014-2015 financial year - 58 (full-time and part-time, and ongoing and non-ongoing employees)
- 2013-2014 financial year - 85 (full-time and part-time, and ongoing and non-ongoing employees)
- 2012-2013 financial year - 95 (full-time and part-time, and ongoing and non-ongoing employees)
- 2011-2012 financial year - 67 (full-time and part-time, and ongoing and non-ongoing employees)

TEQSA is on track to operate within its 2015-16 budget allocation.