

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
—Additional Estimates Hearing—February 2017**

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **New catering arrangements**

Question: **42**

Written **Senator Wong**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 13 April 2017

With reference to evidence provided by the Secretary of the Department of Parliamentary Services, Mr Stefanic, in response to questions by Senator Wong at page 26 of the proof Hansard that:

‘We have 38 staff. All other staff are engaged through a labour hire arrangement.’

Please advise how many regular staff in total are employed by the Department of Parliamentary Staff to service catering operations, distinguishing the number employed by the department directly and the number employed through labour hire arrangements.

Staff only employed from time to time, for example to supplement staff servicing major catering functions in the Great Hall, need not be included.

Answer

As at 28 February 2017 the current number of staff directly engaged by DPS to catering positions is 31. There are 38 positions in the Catering and Events staff structure.

As advised by the Secretary, all other staff are engaged through a labour hire arrangement. This includes “regular staff” that service minimum service requirements on non-sitting days, sitting days and for large events. Accordingly, labour hire staff requirements fluctuate from week to week. Rosters until March 2017 have been dynamic as we establish services and service standards in line with customer expectations. DPS made initial estimates of an average of 23 FTE labour hire on non-sitting weeks and an average of 75 FTE labour hire on sitting weeks based on IHG’s forecast revenue figures for 2016/17. These estimates will be reviewed over the course of 2017.