

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** Voluntary redundancies

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Jan McLucas

**Question reference number:** 137

**Type of Question:** FPA, Friday 30 May 2014, page 42

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 11 July 2014

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

Senator McLUCAS: Is it possible to detail staff reductions by APS level? It says here "program area", but I do not think we are actually allocating staff to program area.

Ms McIntyre: Do you mean the VR estimates to date?

Senator McLUCAS: The overall—you cannot really do that, can you? If you could do it for the expressions of interest on VRs, that would be helpful, I think.

Mr Neal: We could definitely provide you with a breakdown of the people that have left voluntarily via natural attrition from the group over that period by classification. We could take that on notice. The voluntary redundancy estimates would be a little bit more difficult. I could give you a breakdown of the ones that have agreed to separate—the ones that have taken a formal offer of voluntary redundancy—and their classification profile.

Senator McLUCAS: And that is a current occurring thing.

Mr Neal: That is currently—

Senator McLUCAS: So that will be changing over time.

Mr Neal: That is correct.

Senator McLUCAS: When do you expect the process to be concluded?

Mr Neal: By 30 June.

Senator McLUCAS: If you give us that, that might give us a flavour of what is occurring.

Mr Neal: I can do it.

**Answer:**

The response to PM 40 for February 2014 Senate estimates stated that 'voluntary redundancies were announced on 27 March 2014'. Since then, in the period to

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26 June 2014, 106 employees in the Indigenous Affairs Group accepted a voluntary redundancy offer. Of these:

Classification	Total
APS Level 2	1
APS Level 4	9
APS Level 5	10
APS Level 6	31
Executive Level 1	37
Executive Level 2	18

From 1 April to 26 June, 21 employees in the Indigenous Affairs Group left the Department voluntarily via natural attrition. Of these:

Classification	Total
APS3 to APS6 Level	13
Executive Level	8