

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 18-22 November 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Departmental changes

Senator: Senator the Hon Jan McLucas

Question reference number: 249

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 17 January 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. Have you retained all of the staff working in this portfolio from FaHCSIA?
 - a. If not, how many staff were lost in the merge?
 - b. What was the APS level of all staff lost in the merge, and what were their positions and areas of responsibility?
2. Have any additional staff been added to the indigenous affairs portfolio within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet?

Answer:

1. Yes. The only exceptions are a small number of voluntary redundancies and staff who were not dedicated 100 per cent to Indigenous Affairs related work. Negotiations between the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) and the transferring agency ensured that an appropriate proportion of such staff transferred to PM&C.
 - a. None.
 - b. Not applicable.
2. A small number of staff were added to the newly established Indigenous Affairs Group from existing PM&C staff to assist with the transition of Indigenous policy and programmes. No new staff were recruited from outside of PM&C or the Indigenous Affairs portfolio.