

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission

Outcome/Program: Cross Portfolio

Topic: Communications staff

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: 168

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following:

By Department or agency:

- a) How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location.
- b) How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
- c) How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location
- d) How many are graphic designers?
- e) How many are media managers?
- f) How many organise events?

2. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios?

- a) If yes, why?
- b) When was it established?
- b) What is the set up cost?
- c) What is the ongoing cost?
- d) How many staff work there and what are their classifications?

Answer:

There are currently 7 staff in the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) who provide communications services and public relations advice to staff. These staff are Canberra-based and employed on an ongoing basis at the following classification levels: 1 x EL2, 1 x EL1, 5 x APS6 (3 x Graphic Designers; 1 x Webmaster 1x Intranet and Website Advisor).

The type of work undertaken by these staff is primarily to provide advice and guidance on: developing communications strategies; developing marketing material suitable for hard copy and online media; and occasionally, public relations activities.

There are no contractors engaged to deliver these services. There are no media managers engaged at the APSC, however the Corporate Group Manager is responsible for responding to media enquiries. The APSC does not conduct regular media events although occasionally, the Communications team and the Corporate Group Manager will facilitate media briefings if required by the Commissioner. The APSC does not have an independent media studio.