

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2013**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Department of Communications**

**Question No: 29**

**Program No. Corporate**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Staffing**

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

- a. How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred from 7 September 2013 to date? What was the reason for these reductions?
- b. Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.
- c. Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.
- d. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.
- e. Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.

**Answer:**

- a. A total of 19 staff have left the Department over 7 September 2013 to 31 October 2013 and not been replaced. There were no voluntary redundancies. The method of separations were as follows:

<b>Reason</b>	<b>Number of staff</b>
Completion of Non-Ongoing contract	6
Early termination of Non-Ongoing contract	6
Ongoing transfer to / Other agency	3
Resignation from APS	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>

- b. There were no involuntary redundancies in the period 7 September 2013 to 31 October 2013.
- c. See answer to Senate Estimates Question on Notice No 351(3) from the Budget Estimates Hearing, May 2013.
- d. See answer to Senate Estimates Question on Notice No 351(4) from the Budget Estimates Hearing, May 2013
- e. The Department does not have any plans for involuntary redundancies.