

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Additional Estimates 2010-11
23 February 2011

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: Staffing Rates

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 23 February 2011, E45)

QUESTION No: AI-18

Senator CAMERON—Ms Kelly, talking about cutbacks in the department, the coalition policy was not to replace anyone who left a department across the Public Service. Did you do any analysis of the implications it would have if a policy like that were implemented?

Ms Kelly—I am not aware that we have done any analysis on that basis.

Senator CAMERON—What is the turnover in your department per annum?

Ms Kelly—The percentage for the first half of the year to 31 December was 3.6 per cent turnover, which is projecting to a 7.2 per cent annual turnover.

Senator CAMERON—Can somebody do the calculation for me: what is 7.2 per cent in terms of headcount for the department?

Mr Byron—I do not have the exact number with me, but it would be between 225 and 250 per year.

Senator CAMERON—So, if the coalition policy had been implemented, there would be 250 fewer people in the department?

Senator Carr—Every year.

Senator CAMERON—Every year.

Senator Carr—That does not include the agencies. We would need to do a separate calculation on the turnover in the agencies.

Senator CAMERON—Could you take it on notice to get us that number? I find it quite hypocritical that we are getting questions about cutbacks in the department when there was a policy out there that would have been a significant impediment to the department carrying out its duties.

Senator Carr—We are happy to take that on notice. Also, a proposition has been advanced for a further reduction in the automotive program of \$500 million out of the ATS, which would equally have significant consequences.

ANSWER

Provided below are details on the employee initiated turnover for **ongoing/permanent employees** for the period 1 July 2010 to 31 January 2011 across the Portfolio. Unless otherwise specified, turnover is ongoing/permanent employees who left voluntarily and includes promotion to another department, resignation, retirement after age 55 and transfer at level to another agency.

	Total number of employees	Total % of employees
Department of Innovation	94	4.5%
*The Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS)	7	3.41%
The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS)	1	2.22%
The Australian Research Council (ARC)	13	13.97%
IP Australia	53	5.14%
**The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)	92	1.79%
***The Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO)	18	2.19%

***Please note that AIMS is a Statutory Authority and not an APS agency. The figures provided for “AIMS Cessation T/over” includes staff that are on fixed terms but resign prior to completion of contracts.**

**** The figures provided by CSIRO are based on resignations only and have been calculated using an average headcount for the period.**

***** The figures provided by ANSTO are based on resignations only.**