

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Additional Estimates Hearing 2011-12
15 February 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: AUSTRALIAN SKILLS QUALITY AUTHORITY (ASQA)

TOPIC: AQA Employee Levels

REFERENCE: Question on Notice

QUESTION No: AI-40

Senator BUSHBY: How many employees currently work for ASQA?

Mr C Robinson: We have about 110 or 112 at the moment. We are in the process of being established. As you may be aware, Queensland, Tasmania and South Australia are currently in the process of coming across to ASQA and the issues are going through their parliaments as we speak.

Senator BUSHBY: When are those states expected to be fully referred?

Mr C Robinson: We are expecting them to be referred before the end of the financial year. In the case of Tasmania the legislation has been through both houses of parliament and the proclamation was due to occur today. That will include notification of an actual referral date, which we are expecting to be in the next couple of months. Queensland has listed the referral in its parliamentary sittings this week. It has been through its committee stages and hopefully that legislation will go through this week. Similarly, South Australia has also got its legislation listed this week for sittings, and so we are getting to the final stages of those referrals with those states.

Senator BUSHBY: That is good. In respect of the employees—and if you would take this on notice it would be fine as well—can you provide a breakdown of their APS levels? Not by name, but just in terms of how many of each.

Mr C Robinson: We could, yes.

ANSWER

- As at 15 February 2012, 122 employees were working with ASQA.

APS 3 or equivalent	6
APS 4 or equivalent	9
APS 5 or equivalent	21
APS 6 or equivalent	28
EL 1 or equivalent	42
EL 2 or equivalent	14
SES Band 1	2

- Tasmania's referral date was 1 March 2012, and it is anticipated South Australia and Queensland will refer by 30 June 2012. The extent of Queensland's referral will be confirmed after their state election on March 24 2012.