

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Climate Change, Science, Research, and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Additional Estimates Hearing 2012-13
13 February 2013

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, CLIMATE CHANGE, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

TOPIC: Staffing

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Bushby

QUESTION No.: AI-111

Are there any plans for staff reduction? 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. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.

ANSWER

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, CLIMATE CHANGE, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

Prior to the Machinery of Government (MoG) change of 25 March 2013 which incorporated the Climate Change functions from the former Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCCEE), the department was in the process of reducing its staffing levels by 25 through voluntary redundancies. These reductions were largely the result of lower than expected revenue outcomes within some of the department's cost recovery activities.

Since the MoG, the department has identified additional excess positions within the enabling services divisions due to role duplication following the transfer of staff from the former DCCEE. This has resulted in further voluntary redundancies being offered. As this process is currently being finalised, the number cannot be quantified at this stage.

The department has commenced its business planning and budget processes for 2013-14 to 2016-17 and the outcomes of these, including expected staffing levels for 2013-14 and taking into account the recent Machinery of Government will be incorporated into the 2013-14 Portfolio Budget Statements.

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES (AIATSIS)

AIATSIS has not planned to make any staff reductions at this stage.

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE (AIMS)

AIMS is currently working through its planning and budgeting processes for 2013-14 – 2016-17 and the outcomes of these including expected staffing levels for 2013-14 will be incorporated into the 2013-14 PBS.

AUSTRALIAN NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATION (ANSTO)

ANSTO has not planned to make any staff reductions at this stage.

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL (ARC)

ARC has not planned to make any staff reductions at this stage.

AUSTRALIAN SKILLS QUALITY AUTHORITY (ASQA)

ASQA has not planned to make any staff reductions at this stage.

COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION (CSIRO)

The CSIRO is currently working through its planning and budgeting processes for 2013-14 – 2016-17. It is likely that there will be staff reductions in 2013-14 however at the time of providing this answer the precise details and timing of these are still to be finalised. The estimated aggregate impacts on staff numbers will be incorporated into the 2013-14 PBS.

IP AUSTRALIA

IP Australia has not planned to make any staff reductions at this stage.

TERTIARY EDUCATION QUALITY AND STANDARDS AGENCY (TEQSA)

TEQSA has not planned to make any staff reductions at this stage.