

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2010-11
20 October 2010

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SCIENTIST

TOPIC: Staffing Numbers

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard 20 October 2010, E11)

QUESTION No.: SI-7

Senator BUSHBY—How many staff are currently working in the Office of the Chief Scientist?

Prof. Sackett—The actual staff levels vary because some may be part time and so forth. I am happy to give you the number as of 30 September. I will refer the matter to the secretary as he desires. As of 30 September, 15.65 ASL.

Senator BUSHBY—So that is up slightly from the 13 at the last estimates?

Prof. Sackett—That is correct.

Senator BUSHBY—Of those 15.65—and I understand that probably comprises more than 15.65 people—what proportion would be scientifically qualified?

Prof. Sackett—I do not have that exact number in front of me, but it certainly would be more than would have been the case a year or two ago. So the scientific qualifications of the office have been increasing.

Senator BUSHBY—You do not have the exact figure. Are you able to indicate whether about half of them are scientists?

Prof. Sackett—If you would like the exact number we can provide that, but it would be in the order of a half.

Senator BUSHBY—Also the standard of qualification, whether it is a bachelor, a master or a PhD.

Prof. Sackett—Some of each.

Senator BUSHBY—In your answer on notice, could you detail that?

ANSWER

Of the 15.65 staff members within the Office of the Chief Scientist, 10 hold science qualifications. The standard of qualification for these staff members are as follows:

STANDARD OF SCIENTIFIC QUALIFICATION	NUMBER OF STAFF
PhD	3
Master	1
Bachelor	6
Total	10