

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2013-14
21 November 2013

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Public Service efficiencies

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Ludwig

QUESTION No.: SI-174

1. Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
2. Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
3. Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
4. Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much?
5. Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not, why not? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

ANSWER

The Department is currently reviewing its budget for the remainder of 2013-14 and has commenced planning for 2014-15 and the forward estimates. All discretionary spending continues to be reviewed on an ongoing basis with a view to identifying further efficiencies and the Department is constraining expenditure where ever possible including reducing business class travel, consultants, printing and recruitment. The Department will deliver significant savings through efficiency dividends however estimated savings against questions (1) to (4) are not readily able to be quantified at this stage. Overall savings in these areas and other areas will assist the Department to manage within its budget over the forward estimates.

.