

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: Business Competitiveness and Trade Division

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Kim Carr

QUESTION No.: SI-83

1. What are the roles and responsibilities of the Business Competitiveness & Trade Division in the Department of Industry?
2. How many FTE position are allocated to Business Competitiveness & Trade Division? Has this changed since 7 September 2013?
3. As at 18 September 2013 when the new Government was sworn in, provide a breakdown of actual headcounts, and provide the number of staff on non-ongoing employment arrangements. Also please provide an up to date organisational structure for this division.
4. What programs is the Business Competitiveness & Trade Division in the Department of Industry responsible for?

ANSWER

1. The Business Competitiveness and Trade Division advises on policies to strengthen the productivity and international competitiveness of Australian industry. It represents the portfolio's interests in international trade negotiations and provides policy advice on matters such as anti-dumping, tariff concessions and country of origin labelling. The division manages the relationship with Standards Australia, JAS-ANZ, and the National Association of Testing Authorities. The division also provides advice on policy issues relating to the pharmaceuticals, medical devices, biotechnology, ICT and services industries. Commercialisation Australia is also part of the division.
2. The current Business Competitiveness and Trade Division was formed on 4 November 2013. The allocated positions as at 30 November was 92.85.
3. The headcount as at 30 November 2013 was 90 with one staff member being non-ongoing. The organisational structure is at **Attachment A**.
4. The programmes are listed in the Department of Industry, Innovation, Climate Change, Science, Research and Tertiary Education 2013-14 Portfolio Budget Statements.

