

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

**Cross Portfolio**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0403\_14**

**Senator Carr asked on 26 February 2014 , Hansard page 11**

**Question**

**Staffing - Graduate programme**

Senator KIM CARR: It is just that that is what you said, Secretary, and I am surprised—that is all. This, of all places—the education department—you would think would be employing graduates. It strikes me as a reduction in the program. Ms Paul: That is a good point. I will have a look at that. I suspect it is, in part, reflective of the fact that we had already sought interest, and so we may have had interest from people towards employment. I don't know. I will check it out for you. Senator KIM CARR: How many officers, effective full time, are employed currently in the graduate program? Ms Paul: You mean supporting graduates? Senator KIM CARR: It is an additional question. I have asked you what you anticipate. You are saying about 20, which I am surprised by. I will put it to you very bluntly: I am very surprised by that. I would like to know how many you currently have in the graduate program amongst the departmental establishment. Ms Paul: Sure. Senator KIM CARR: It is difficult to compare department to department literally, but we can in a proportional sense. Am I correct in assuming that the numbers in the previous department of DEEWR were 60 in 2011, 70 in 2012 and 60 in 2013? Ms Paul: I think so, and I am quite happy to take that on notice too.

**Answer**

A total of sixty-one graduate positions were offered by the former Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR). Fifty-three offers were accepted.

As a result of the machinery of government changes three went to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C), two to the Department of Social Services (DSS), twenty to the Department of Education and twenty-three to the Department of Employment. Five declined after acceptance and were not replaced.

The table below shows the number of graduates recruited as a proportion of the former DEEWR headcount and the current Department of Education headcount:

Year	Graduate Numbers	Department	Headcount (at 28 Feb)	% of Headcount
2011	60	DEEWR	5482	1.09
2012	70	DEEWR	4548	1.54
2013	60	DEEWR	4175	1.44
2014	20	Education	1931	1.03