EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 1
Output Group: ARC

DEST Question No. E022_05

Senator Carr asked on 2 June 2004, EWRE Hansard page 31.

Refers to DEST Question No. E817_04

Question:

Senator Carr – If we look at E817, it says the reason you increased the number of executive level staff by four was that you filled four positions. I can follow the logic of that. You have a vacancy and you fill it. That is how we get an increase. That is remarkable, but even Senator Tierney would appreciate the subtleties of that line of logic. How long were they vacant for? How long were those four positions vacant for? Do we know that?

Dr Walker – I do not know the answer to that. I can take it on notice.

Senator Carr – Can you find that out for me? They were not new positions, were they?

Dr Walker – No.

Senator Carr – Is that right, Mr Harper? Do you want to hesitate on the answer there?

Mr Harper – As you will see there, the third dot point of the answer refers to two executive level staff who were taken off line to work on the applications and grants management system project. Those positions were new positions and the backfilling of the positions that those two officers vacated was as a result of the two new positions in the AGMS project.

Answer:

Executive level staff

The ARC has provided the following response.

The executive level positions referred to in Question No. E817_04 were vacant for short periods between June 2002 and June 2003.

● An Executive Level 1 position in the Human Resources (HR) Section was vacant from 12 July 2002 until mid-October 2002 when the ARC began to transition its HR function away from the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST), requiring a greater HR presence at the ARC. At that time the position was filled by an officer on temporary transfer from DEST. The position was advertised for permanent filling on 10 April 2003 and filled on 19 June 2003.

● An Executive Level 1 position in the Systems Section was created in April 2003 when it was ascertained that the transition of the provision of the ARC's IT services away from DEST would require an additional executive level position. The position was advertised on 10 April 2003 and filled on 19 June 2003.

- An Executive Level 2 position in the Systems Section was vacated on 10 February 2003 when the occupant was transferred to the ARC's Application and Grants Management System (AGMS) project. The position was advertised on 13 February 2003 and filled on 24 March 2003 by an ARC officer on long-term higher duties. The position was also occupied in the interim period by an ARC officer on higher duties.

- An Executive Level 1 position in the Disciplines and Programs Branch was also vacated on 10 February 2003 when the occupant was transferred to the ARC's AGMS project. The position was advertised on 27 February and filled permanently on 19 June 2003. The position was also occupied in the interim period by an ARC officer on higher duties.