

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome **Corporate**

DEEWR Question No. EW797_10

Senator Humphries asked in writing.

Question

DEEWR Staffing

- a. Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts? If so, where and at what level?
- b. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.
- c. What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.

Answer

- a. The 2009-10 Budget provides an estimated ASL for the Department of 5,400, a reduction of 150 or 2.8% from 2008-09. The reductions are as a result of the efficiency dividend and the reduction in funding for a range of measures.
- b. The staff reduction will be managed through natural attrition and the deployment of staff to new initiatives. Initiatives with reduced funding in 2009-10 include Employment Services, Northern Territory Emergency Response, Investing in our Schools Program and the National Literacy and Numeracy Program.
- c. The department has almost finalised entry level recruitment for 2010. There are no plans to reduce current entry level commitments.