

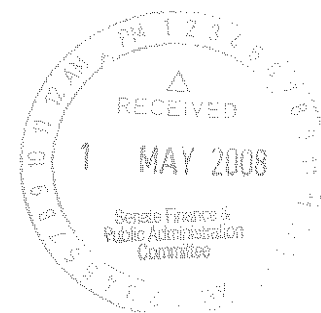
**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Finance and Deregulation Portfolio**

**Department of Finance and Deregulation**

**Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2008**



**Question: F70**

**Outcome 3, Output 3.1**

**Topic: Members of Parliament Staff - Salaries above the range and previous employment in the Australian Public Service by MOP(S) Act employees**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 105**

**Senator Ronaldson asked:**

Can you confirm that all former ministerial staff who were paid above the salary band in the previous government were either, firstly, public servants whose APS salary was more than the highest band of the MOP(S) salary—and hence requiring above-the-band adjustment for them to work as staffers without suffering financial disadvantage—or, secondly, long-term MOP staff who had, over a long period of time, gone over the top of the band through annual performance increments?

**Answer:**

Ministerial and Parliamentary Services' (M&PS) records indicate that nine former senior Government employees who were being paid a salary above the range as at 24 October 2007 were on leave without pay from the Australian Public Service (APS). M&PS' records do not provide details as to what APS classification or salary level they were on in their respective agencies prior to commencing employment under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (MOP(S) Act).

Of the remaining 12 former senior Government employees, M&PS' records indicate that these employees do not appear to have undertaken employment in the APS immediately prior to commencing MOP(S) Act employment.

17 employees were on a salary above the range from their starting date in relevant position.

One employee received a salary above the range as a result of the Annual Performance Review on 9 August 2005. Two employees received a salary above the range as a result of the Annual Performance Review on 1 December 2006. One employee received a salary above the range as a result of the mid-year performance review in May 2007.

The relevant information for the positions in which these employees were engaged is detailed in the attached table.

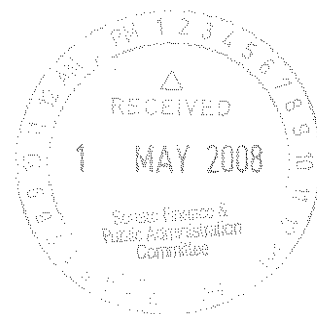
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**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

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<b>Position</b>	<b>Starting Salary Above the Range</b>	<b>APS employee Immediately Prior to Commencement</b>
Media Adviser (Cabinet)	Yes	No
Media Adviser (Cabinet)	Yes	No
Media Adviser (Cabinet)	Yes	No
Media Adviser (Cabinet)	Yes	No
Media Adviser (Cabinet)	No *	No
Media Adviser (Cabinet)	Yes	No
Senior Adviser 1 (Cabinet)	Yes	Yes
Senior Adviser 1 (Cabinet)	Yes	Yes
Senior Adviser 1 (Cabinet)	Yes	Yes
Senior Adviser 1 (Cabinet)	Yes	No
Senior Adviser 1 (Cabinet)	Yes	Yes
Senior Adviser 2	Yes	Yes
Senior Adviser 2	Yes	Yes
Senior Adviser 2	Yes	Yes
Senior Adviser 2	No ^	No
Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff) (Cabinet)	Yes	Yes
Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff) (Cabinet)	Yes	Yes
Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff) (Cabinet)	No #	No
Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff) (Cabinet)	No *	No
Senior Adviser (Chief of Staff) (Non-Cabinet)	Yes	No
Senior Adviser (Non-Cabinet)	Yes	No

\* Increase in salary to a salary above the range occurred as a result of the annual performance review of senior Government staff on 30 November 2006. The date for the salary increase was 1 December 2006 and was given effect through a Determination under the MOP(S) Act.

^ Increase in salary to a salary above the range first occurred as a result of the annual performance review of senior Government staff on 13 July 2005. The date for the salary increase was 9 August 2005 and was given effect through a Determination under the MOP(S) Act. This employee maintained a salary above the range until their employment under the MOP(S) Act ceased on 17 December 2007.

# Increase in salary to a salary above the range occurred on 31 May 2007 as a result of the mid-year performance review of senior Government staff and was given effect through a Determination under the MOP(S) Act.