

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission

Outcome/Program: State of the Service Report

Topic: APS staff unplanned absences – action in small agencies

Senator: Senator Mason

Question reference number: 71

Type of question: Hansard, FPA, P.113, 13 February 2012

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 March 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question: Senator MASON: What is being done in those two agencies to address those issues?

Mr Sedgwick: We will take that on notice too.

Answer: Based on the responses provided by the Professional Services Review and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies in last year's State of the Service agency survey, these agencies are developing and using the following key strategies:

- absence is a regular agenda item at senior management meetings
- attendance expectations are established and communicated
- a reporting framework assists management to monitor absences
- flexible working arrangements are provided
- health, safety and wellbeing are promoted.