

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2013

PM&C Portfolio

Department/Agency: National Mental Health Commission
Outcome/Program: National Mental Health Commission
Topic: Making the Public Service more efficiency

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 46

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 April 2013

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Please provide an update of the savings achieved through pursuing further efficiencies in the way the public service operates (see media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State of 25 September 2012 http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_1982012.html).

In addition, please provide the following detail:

Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for reductions in air travel?

Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much? Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not, why not? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer:

The National Mental Health Commission has a Departmental savings target of \$33,570 over the forward estimates to 2015-16. As a small agency the Commission monitors budget

performance each month to take account of those savings targets in all areas, including travel, printing, advertising and use of consultants and contractors.

The Commission will continue to adhere to Government policies such as non-campaign advertising and monitor closely expenditure in all areas of Departmental activity.

The Commission has moved all recruitment to online advertising.