

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2007

Question: 13

Outcome 3, Output 3.1

Topic: Recruitment and Advertising

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Senator Faulkner asked:

The Hon. Chris Pearce, MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer recently advertised a position in his office that outlined a salary range. I want to understand the broad principle and make sure the application here is appropriate for the government and the opposition.

Answer:

The *Commonwealth Members of Parliament Staff Collective Agreement 2006-2009* states that:

The employing Member may appoint/engage new Electorate Employees at the Electorate Officer A classification at any of the seven lowest salary points based on the demonstrated and relevant skills and experience of the Employee.

The employing Member may appoint/engage new Electorate Employees at the Electorate Officer C and Electorate Officer B classifications at any of the three lowest salary points of the respective classifications based on the demonstrated and relevant skills and experience of the Employee.

Personal Employees may be appointed/engaged at any salary point within the classification to which the appointment/engagement is made based on the demonstrated and relevant skills and experience of the Employee.

Determination 2007/PartIII/5 made by the Special Minister of State under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* enables Relevant Office Holders to advance employees to a higher salary within the salary band of the employee's classification than set out in the Collective Agreement. Relevant Office Holders are: Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Leader and Deputy Leader of a minority party.

The advertisement in question quotes salary ranges defined within the Collective Agreement and Determination 2007/PartIII/5.