

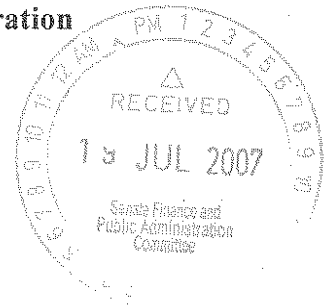
Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearings 2007-2008, 21-22 May 2007



Question: PM 97

Outcome 1, Output 2.1

Topic: Social Policy Resourcing

Direct on Notice:

Senator Evans asked:

1. The PBS (page 24) notes that resourcing for Output Group 2 is projected to decrease from \$13.745 million to \$9.918 million between 2006-07 and 2007-08. What is the explanation for this decrease?
2. Please provide a full breakdown of how this decrease will be achieved.
3. What is the projected impact on average staffing level in Output Group 2 of this reduction in resourcing?

Answer:

1. A number of COAG taskforces or project teams established for specific purposes (national action plan for human influenza pandemic, skilled temporary migrants, health workforce project, therapeutic cloning) have now completed their tasks or are winding down.
2. Redeployment and reassignment of staff to ongoing functions and through normal staff turnover.
3. The average staffing level of Output Group 2 in 2006-07 is expected to be around 71, taking into account staff employed directly in Output Group 2. In 2007-08 the average staffing level of Output Group 2 is projected to be between 50-55.