

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

*Template for answering QON:*

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee**  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
[ESTIMATES ROUND May 2010]

[PM&C]

**Department/Agency:** ANAO  
**Outcome/Output Group:**  
**Topic:** Staffing – Efficiency dividend/budget cuts

**Senator:** Senator Barnett  
**Question reference number:** PM 61  
**Type of question:** Written  
**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 9 July 2010

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cut?

- Since the efficiency dividend was introduced?
- Since additional estimates?

Is so, where and at what level?

Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise the details, ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.

If your Department/agency has been identified in the budget as delivering further efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, if the budget papers say 'improvement to strategic work practices' or similar, what are these and how will they be delivered?)

What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.

**Answer:**

Overall staffing numbers have marginally increased since the efficiency dividend due to the following factors.

In the 2009-10 Budget, the ANAO received funding of \$20 million over five years to restore its performance audit program and to enhance IT audit capability. This has

resulted in an increase in staff in our Performance Audit Service Group and IT Audit area (14 full-time staff). In December 2009, the former Office of Evaluation and Audits (Indigenous) was transferred to the ANAO from the Department of Finance and Deregulation as a result of a machinery of government change. This change resulted in approximately \$4 million per annum and 19 staff being transferred to the ANAO.

The ANAO has no planned net reductions in staffing that will reduce its overall headcount for 2010-11.

The ANAO continues to identify savings and efficiencies to operate within its budget envelope. This includes introduction of technologies to streamline processing, reviews of processes and procedures and increased emphasis on effective project management.

In 2009-10 the ANAO had planned for recruitment of 20 graduates and for 2010-11 we plan to recruit 25 graduates.