

Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2010-11 (May 2010)

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Old Parliament House

Outcome/Output Group:

Topic: Staffing - efficiency dividend / budget cuts

Senator: Senator Barnett

Question reference number: PM61

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

Number of pages: 2

- a) Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?
 - i. Since the efficiency dividend was introduced?
 - ii. Since additional estimates?If so, where and at what level?
- b) Are there any plans for staff reduction?
 - a. If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.
- c) 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?)
- d) What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs?
 - a. If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.

Answer:

- a) Staffing numbers have not been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend or other budget cuts. This has not occurred since the efficiency dividends was introduced, or since additional estimates.
- b) There are no current plans for staff reductions. Staffing numbers are managed in accordance with appropriations provided by Government through Budget processes.
- c) The agency has not been identified in the budget as delivering further efficiencies.

- d) No changes are underway or planned with regard to graduate recruitment, cadetships or other similar programs.