

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: 1.1.5
Topic: CHOGM staffing

Senator: Ludlum
Question reference number: 54
Type of question: Hansard, p 113, 23 May
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 8 July 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator LUDLAM: It is in my home town. Have you started shifting PM&C staff across to Perth?

Mr Sterland: Yes. I believe a small leading contingent has gone—the ones involved with facilities, as I understand it. And then they will progressively transfer there.

Senator LUDLAM: Okay. Can you give us an idea of how many are already there?

Mr Sterland: It is changing as we speak. Now is the time when the move is underway. I have not got precise numbers on me. I would say that it is around 10 or under at the moment out of the numbers that I mentioned earlier.

Senator LUDLAM: Could you on notice confirm for us whether that is accurate—the number of staff from PM&C that you have there now relative to the numbers that you will have in Perth when the thing actually kicks off.

Mr Sterland: When the financial year kicks off—

Senator LUDLAM: Sorry, the event.

Mr Sterland: The event. My understanding is that the bulk of the team will be heading over during the month of June.

Senator LUDLAM: Okay.

Mr Sterland: It will be substantially there at the start of the year and then planning intensively.

Senator LUDLAM: So you can provide us with those numbers when you can verify them.

Answer:

Three Taskforce staff responsible for CHOGM 2011 venues relocated to Perth on 4 April 2011 and a further two venues staff commenced in Perth on 2 May 2011. Four staff from the Corporate area relocated to Perth in the first week of June. As of 17 June 2011, 25 Taskforce staff were located in Perth. The remainder of the Taskforce will relocate to Perth progressively until 4 July 2011. It is expected that total Taskforce staffing will peak at 63 immediately prior to the event. In addition, the Australian Government will be assigning two liaison officers to each Commonwealth member country attending CHOGM 2011. A small number of liaison officers will also support the Spouse/Partner Program. The total number of liaison officers is expected to be 135. Liaison officers will relocate to Perth in the week prior to the event.