

Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2010-2011
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission

Outcome/Output Group: 1.1

Topic: Staffing Levels

Senator: Abetz

Question reference number: PM 109

- a) What has been the general staffing trend in your department and portfolio agencies since the 2007 election (for example SES numbers and recruitment has increased by X per cent because of Y).
- b) What have been the changes in staffing levels since Budget Estimates 2010? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications? In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions these staff performed have been sacrificed and why

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010

Number of pages: One

Answer:

- a) The Commission's total staffing numbers have remained relatively stable during the period from the 2007 election to the May 2010 Budget Estimates. Average staffing levels:

2007	201
2008	214
2009	215
2010	194
2011	239 estimated.
- b) Since the May 2010 Budget Estimates the Commission's staffing levels have increased due to the transfer of 36 staff from the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (Public Sector Branch, Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal and the Remuneration Tribunal) as a result of changes to the Administrative Arrangements Orders. The Commission also commenced recruiting to key positions responsible for implementing the recommendations of the *Blueprint for the Reform of Australian Government Administration*. Commission average staffing level at 30 October 2010 is 229.