

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2010**  
ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General

**Program 1:** Support for the Governor-General and Official Activities

**Outcome 1:** The performance of the Governor-General's role is facilitated through the organisation and management of official duties, management and maintenance of the official household and property and administration of the Australian Honours and Awards system.

**Topic:** Staffing levels

**Senator:** ABETZ

**Question reference number:** PM109

**Type of Question:** Written

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

**Number of Pages:** 1

**Answer:**

a) The Average Staffing Level (ASL) in 2007-08 was 91. This grew to 96 in 2008-09 and fell to 88 in 2009-10. The current year to date average is 89 and the average for 2010-11 is planned to be 87.

Overall staffing numbers have reduced as a result of budget realities, including increased staffing and supplier unit costs and the impact of the efficiency dividend on a small agency. Staffing numbers are managed in accordance with resources provided by Government through Budget processes. Savings have been achieved across a broad range of levels throughout the organisation.

b) No material change.