

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARINGS**

**PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET PORTFOLIO**

**Department/Agency: Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government**

**Outcome: 1**

**Topic: Staffing Levels**

**Senator: ABETZ**

**Question reference number: 56**

**Type of question: Written, Tuesday 19 October 2010**

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

- a) What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?
- b) What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers?

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**Answer:**

- a) The Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government was established on the 14 September 2010 and commenced operations on 1 October 2010 when staff and the associated resources transferred to the department. There was no expenditure on staffing prior to this date. The total departmental expenditure on staffing (including salaries, allowances, superannuation, leave liability accruals, fringe benefit tax and other related expenses) for the department and its portfolio agencies for the full month of October 2010 was \$2,389,000. The table below provides an estimate of the breakdown for expenditure on staffing for SES and non-SES officers.

	SES \$'000	Non SES \$'000	Total \$'000
Regional Australia	233	1,820	2,053
Portfolio Agency - National Capital Authority (NCA)	81	255	336
<b>Total Portfolio</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>2,075</b>	<b>2,389</b>

- b) As at 19 October 2010 the Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government Portfolio's staffing profile was:

Current Staffing Levels	Ongoing	Non – Ongoing	Short-term Secondees	Total
Regional Australia - APS SES staff	8	0	4	12
Regional Australia - APS non SES staff	238	3	6	247
NCA – APS SES	4	0	0	4
NCA – APS Non SES	46	0	0	46
<b>Total Portfolio</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>309</b>

In addition the department also employs approximately 120 non-APS personnel on a full-time, part-time, casual and relief basis. They are employed to provide a range of municipal services in the Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Island Territories.