

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: Administrative Arrangement Orders

Senator: ABETZ

Question reference number: 79

Type of question: Written, Tuesday 19 October 2010

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

- a) Can you detail what changes have occurred in your portfolio as a result of the Administrative Arrangements Orders published on 14 September 2010.
 - i. Were there any costs associated with these changes (for example changes to departmental signage or whether refurbishment or additional space will need to be leased to accommodate new staff. Alternatively, will agencies be left with empty office space due to loss of staff). Please provide details
 - ii. Were there any staff changes as a result (staff transferring to or from your agency)? If yes, please detail what the staff changes were, including a breakdown of changes to each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band.
- b) Were there any changes in your portfolio as a result of the Administrative Arrangements Orders published on 14 October 2010.
 - i. Were there any costs associated with these changes (for example changes to departmental signage). Please provide details.
 - ii. Were there any staff changes as a result (staff transferring to or from your agency)? If yes, please detail what the staff changes were, including a breakdown of changes to each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band.
- iii. Can you describe what, if any, Administrative Arrangements Orders occurred in your portfolio between November 2007 and July 2010? Please detail the costs associated with these.

Number of pages: 2

Answer:

- a) The Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government was established on 14 September 2010.
 - i. The department received initial start up funding of \$34.6 million for the remainder of 2010-11. The full cost of establishing and administering the department in 2010-11 is yet to be determined. The department has sought to minimise costs by sharing a range of corporate services (e.g. Human Resource, Finance and Information and Communications Technology) with the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DoIT). For example, the department is occupying accommodation space leased by DoIT at 4 Mort Street Canberra City.

- ii. The following table sets out details of permanent staff transferred at level to the department from DoIT and the Attorney-General's Department:

Band	Ongoing Staff
SES3	1
SES2	2
*SES1	5
EL2	32
EL1	71
APS6	69
APS5	28
APS4	25
APS3	8
GRAD APS3	4
APS2	1
APS1	1
Total	247

*In addition, the department has one SES1 who is long term inoperative.

- b) No.