

**Senate Finance & Public Administration Committee:
Answers to written Questions on Notice Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-13
Parliamentary Departments Portfolio**

Department: Parliamentary Budget Office
Topic: Making the Public Service more efficient

Senator: Senator Scott Ryan
Question reference number: 79
Type of question: Written

Question

- a. Please detail how the department/agency will achieve savings over the forward estimates through pursuing further efficiencies in the way the public service operates (see media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State of 25 September 2012 http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media/2012/mr_1982012.html).

In addition, please provide the following detail:

- b. How will reductions in air travel spending be achieved? What is the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
- c. What restrictions will be implemented for business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
- d. How will the use of external consultants and contractors be reduced? How will this impact on the Department/agency? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
- e. How will the department/agency manage moving recruitment advertising online? Will all future recruitment advertisement be online only? If not, explain why. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?
- f. How will printing costs be reduced? Explain if and how the department/agency will reduce its printing costs by five per cent, or if it will not, why not? How will it be determined what documents will no longer be printed? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer

- a. The Parliamentary Budget Office commenced operation on 23 July 2012 and will manage its operations in 2012-13 and across the forward estimates in accordance with its funding levels.
- b. See (a) above.
- c. See (a) above.
- d. See (a) above.
- e. See (a) above.
- f. See (a) above.