

PUBLIC SECTOR — EMPLOYMENT — JOB SECURITY

614. Hon PETER COLLIER to the minister representing the Minister for Finance:

I refer to the media release dated 9 August 2018 titled “Thousands of State Government workers to receive job security”.

- (1) How many employees in the public sector are currently employed on a casual or fixed-term basis?
- (2) Will this measure apply to government trading enterprises and statutory authorities?
- (3) What is the expected cost of this decision over the forward estimates?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) As of 31 March 2018, there were approximately 36 000 fixed-term contracts and casual arrangements. An employee may have more than one fixed-term contract or casual arrangement. Only eligible employees will be considered for permanency.
- (2) The commissioner’s instruction does not apply to government trading enterprises or any other entity listed in schedule 1 of the Public Sector Management Act 1994. Otherwise, it applies to all public sector bodies, unless their employees are specifically excluded by the operation of the commissioner’s instruction.
- (3) The decision is not currently expected to incur additional costs beyond what is already in agencies’ expense limits over the forward estimates period.