



ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE PRIOR TO HEARING

Department of Aboriginal Affairs

The Committee asked:

Sale of Vehicles

1.11) How many vehicles does your agency expect to sell in the 2015-16 financial year?

Answer: Nil.

1.12) How many vehicles does your agency expect to sell in the 2016-17 financial year?

Answer: Nil.

1.13) What is the estimated total proceeds from the sales in each of the above financial years and how will those funds be allocated?

1.14) Will any of the sales in 2016-17 be part of the Agency Expenditure Review program and, if yes, how many?

1.15) What will be the impact on agency staff (i.e. what alternative arrangements have been made for their transport)? What will be the cost of any alternative transport arrangements compared to the cost of retaining the vehicles?

Answer:

1.13 – 1.15: Not applicable.

Full time/contract staff

1.16) What is the estimated total number of FTE staff in your agency for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 financial years?

Answer: 133.1 FTE in 2015-16 and 130 FTE in 2016-17 Budget Estimate.

1.17) In each financial year, what proportion of your staff are engaged in:

- a) A contract of service (permanent staff)?
- b) A contract for services (contractors)?

Answer:

a) 2015-16: An average of 142 contracts of employment (service) to 31 May 2016, some of which were filled temporarily during the year by contractors.

2016-17: Unknown.

b) 2015-16: 37 contracts for service.

2016-17: Unknown.

1.18) Of those that are engaged by a contract for services, please explain why they are not engaged as permanent staff.

Answer:

In 2015-16, some staff were engaged for a temporary appointment while the position was being advertised, some were engaged in established positions that were subject to review, some were engaged with specific skills for a short term project, and others were engaged to cover unplanned leave or a short term vacancy.

1.19 What is the cost to the agency of engaging contractors, including contract preparation, negotiation, payroll modifications, (i.e. where the contracts are renewed for staff on 6 month contracts) and cost of HR staff who manage the contracts?

Answer:

In 2015-16, in relation to salary, contractors are paid an hourly rate, whereas contract of employment staff are paid at a 37.5 hour week rate with additional hours used as flexi time. The additional costs associated with appointing the above 37 contractors is approximately \$15,500.

1.20 Are staff employed as contractors paid at a different rate to those who are permanent employees in a similar role and, if so, please provide details and explain why?

Answer:

No, staff employed as contractors are paid at the applicable rate set out in the *Public Service Government Officers General Agreement 2014* or the *Temporary Personnel Common Use Agreement*.