



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY
MARISA PATERSON MLA (CHAIR), ANDREW BRADDOCK MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), LEANNE CASTLEY MLA

Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports and Budget Estimates 2020-21
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
2 March 2021

Asked by MS CASTLEY:

In relation to: Recruitment relating to Jobs for Canberrans

Mr Rutledge: I think, Ms Castley, I mean, it was a temporary measure by government, and it provided temporary employment for some people. As the economy, more broadly, has been picking up some of the staff that had temporary roles with us, have taken up other opportunities, either in their previous work or as the city continues to open up.

Whilst I do not have the figure here, I know of the 26 it will be less than 10, have stayed with EPSDD specific but that is not from a lack of opportunities within EPSDD, I think it is more a reflection that the city has almost—not recovered fully but certainly, the economy has opened up quite strongly since then.

So as a temporary measure, going to the minister's point, we know a lot about how to do recruitment, how to recruit quickly from areas that we are not used to recruiting and a targeted recruitment for people that were not available—not able to access job seeker. So it was a very specific—so overseas students, for example.

You know, they are not able—they probably—the people that came and joined us probably had not ever thought that they were going to be a ranger or a land manager. So it was a temporary job for the purpose of trying something new. So I do not think the people who joined us thought it was going to be a longer-term program, some of them have turned it into longer-term employment but I think for those involved, and we benefitted from the jobs for Canberrans, as did the other agencies.

But I think, yes I think the number is less than 10 but of course, I am happy to take that number on notice.

MS CASTLEY: Yes, if you could take that on notice of—yes, who left and who stayed and how much money they were paid and how much the whole program cost ...(indistinct)

Mr Rutledge: Yes, yes. The jobs for Canberrans, as a whole of government initiative, will go through a lessons learned and evaluation of which we will have an input into but happy to answer specific for us on this one.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. 6

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THE CHAIR: Just further on the question, I am interested in the gender breakdown as well and just, you know, I would be fascinated to know who is staying on and if it was gendered at all in terms of who you engaged.

Mr Rutledge: Yes, yes.

MINISTER VASSAROTTI: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:-

The total cost is \$2,912,454 which crosses two financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21

Non-employee cost includes administrative cost which include but not limited to training, equipment, vehicle rentals, consumables. Cost required to provide staff with the on-going training, support and necessary tools to undertake the work.

The Directorate has extended a significant number of rangers with transferrable skillsets gained through the training program to undertake work for the Directorate on other programs during the remainder of the 2020-21 financial year. This cost is being funded from within the Directorate.

Number of staff	Directorate/ Agency	Role	Level engaged	Gender
2	City Renewal Authority	Administration officers for grants/policy work	ASO 5	1 Female 1 Male
7	EPSDD	Employing Ngunawal Peoples to heal Country - Fire Recovery Officer/s	GSO 5/6 GSO 8	1 Female 5 Male 1 Male
11	EPSDD	Repairing and enhancing ACT Tracks and Trails Field Officer/s	GSO 5/6	5 Female 6 Male
12	EPSDD	Fire recovery and catchment restoration Park Ranger	Park Ranger Grade 1	4 Female 8 Male
1	EPSDD	Facilities Manager	ASO 6	1 Male

Eight of the staff have left the Directorate. Two staff have become permanent staff members. All remaining staff have contract end dates between 30 May 2021 to 30 June 2021.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Signature: 

Date: 11/3/2021

By the Minister for the Environment, Rebecca Vassarotti MLA