

## Estimates Committee 2009 Questions Taken On Notice

( 16/6/2009 to 19/6/2009 )

Date: 17/06/2009 Output: 1.0 - Local Government  
Sub Output: 1.1 - Local Government

Subject: Establishment - separation - rates - estimated rate

**From:** Mr Willem Westra van Holthe to Hon Robert Knight  
Department of Local Government and Housing

---

**Question:** **6-3**  
According to the 2007-08 Annual Report staff separation rates or attrition went from 12% in the previous year to 16%. What is the estimate for the 2008-09 attrition rate for local government?

**Answer:**  
Answered On: 17/06/2009  
Answer: The rate is calculated on an annual basis after 30 June and so we cannot actually give you that, so it is not an answer we can provide on notice. But the other part of your question, as I recall it, was the reason why the 2008-09 rate was higher than the 2006-07 rate and we can make some comments about the 2006-07 rate.

The 2006-07 rate was that we have employed people on a contract basis, which are aligned with the Australian government – I will have to reverse the way this has been written for me. We have employed people on a contract basis funded by the Australian government. When those positions finished, that led to this kind of fairly dramatic blip in the attrition rate, which is what I gather prompted the member for Katherine's question: what are we doing about that? It was an artefact of Commonwealth funding arrangements, rather than attrition of NTPS staff.