

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2013 - 2014, 26 February 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000032

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Senate Estimates Briefing

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Ludwig Joe

Question:

- 1) How many officers were responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates?
- 2) How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information?
 - a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification
- 3) Were drafts shown to the Minister or their office before senate estimates?
 - a. If so, when did this occur?
 - b. How many versions of this information were shown to the minister or their office?
- 4) Did the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information?
 - a. If so, when did this occur?
 - b. What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification.
 - c. When were the changes made?
- 5) Provide each of the contents page of the Department/Minister/representing Minister's Senate Estimates folder prepared by the department for the Additional Estimates hearings in February 2014.

Answer:

1. and 2.

The preparation of briefings for the Department of Health's appearance before Senate Estimates hearings is a whole of portfolio undertaking. The Department does not record the level of detail sought in these questions.

3. No.

4. No.

5. Departmental witnesses appearing before the Committee carry different briefing material and associated content as relevant to their areas of responsibility. Management of final briefing materials prepared for the representing Minister is a matter for that office and the Department is not involved in the finalisation of this material.