Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013–2014

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM0065_14

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Red tape reduction

1) Please detail what structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the government's red tape reduction targets? a. What is the progress of that red tape reduction target?
2) How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?
3) How have they been recruited? 4) What process was used for their appointment?
5) What is the total cost of this unit? 6) Do members of the unit have access to Cabinet documents? 7) Please list the security classification and date the classification was issued for each officer, broken down by APS or SES level, in the red tape reduction unit or similar body.

Answer

1. The Department of Employment has established a Deregulation Section to drive a coordinated across-portfolio approach to help achieve the Coalition Government's regulatory burden targets.

a) The Government is currently considering arrangements for the implementation of the deregulation agenda.

2. Resourcing for the section, including staffing levels and classifications, will vary from time to time, depending on the volume and nature of the material the section is required to action.

3. Officers in the section are existing ongoing employees of the Department of Employment. One officer is on secondment from The Treasury.

4. Existing officers in the Employment portfolio have been assigned to the section as part of an organisational restructure and in accordance with the department's business requirements.

5. See answer to '2'.

6. Officers in the section may have access to Cabinet documents where they hold the appropriate security classification and where access to the document is required by an officer to perform their official duties.

7. Officers within the section hold the appropriate security classification.