

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Additional Budget Estimates Hearing 2013-14
27 February 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Red Tape Reduction

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Kim Carr

QUESTION No.: AI-67

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. 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.
8. What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?

ANSWER

1. A Portfolio Regulation Reform Taskforce has been established. The Taskforce comprises the Business Online Services Branch and the Regulation Reform Policy Branch.
 - a. The Government's progress towards the red tape reduction target is available on <http://www.cuttingredtape.gov.au/>.
2. The Regulation Reform Policy Branch, created specifically to progress the regulation reform agenda across the portfolio, comprised 12.5 officers consisting of 1 APS4, 2 APS5, 2 APS6, 5 EL1, 1 EL2, and 1.5 SES, as of 5 March 2013.
- 3-4. The department has recruited staff from the portfolio through an internal mobility process.
5. The total budget of the Regulation Reform Policy Branch for 2013–14 is about \$850,000.
6. Yes.
7. All of the officers have been issued with at least a minimum baseline (Protected) clearance.
8. The Portfolio Regulation Reform Taskforce.