

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Education Question No. ED0124_14

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Red tape reduction

Please detail what structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the Government's red tape reduction targets? What is the progress of that red tape reduction target?

How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level? How have they been recruited?

What process was used for their appointment? What is the total cost of this unit?

Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents? 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

Responsibility for the coordination of deregulation in the department, in response to the Government's agenda has been assigned to the Business Improvement Branch.

The department has established a dedicated team to coordinate the department's work in relation to deregulation. In addition the team links to the work being undertaken in the specific business areas of the department (early childhood education, schools and higher education). People who are currently working in the deregulation area have a range of security clearances from Negative Vetting Level 1, Highly Protected and Baseline.

The department has also established an internal deregulation committee, chaired by a deputy secretary with senior representation from across all clusters of the department.