

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2013-14 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** Cross Outcome - Across Programs

**Question No:** 57

**Topic:** Senate Estimates Briefing

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Ludwig** asked:

- 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) Officers from across the Department contribute to the Ministers' Senate Estimates briefing packs. As this was undertaken in conjunction with other duties, there is no data on the number of officers involved.
- 2) As above.
- 3) No.
- 4) No.
- 5) Information on briefing provided to Ministers is not normally made publicly available, in order to maintain the agencies' ability to properly and effectively brief Ministers.