

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014**

**Ref No:** SQ14-000861

**OUTCOME:** 0 - Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** Senate Estimates Briefing - Process and Resources

**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 Budget Estimates hearings in June 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 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.