Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

26 February 2014

Question: AET 425-429

Topic: Senate estimates briefing (ACCC)

Written: 5 March 2014

Senator LUDWIG asked:

- 425. How many officers were responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates?
- 426. How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information?

a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification

- 427. 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?
- 428. 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?

429. 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:

- 425. A range of Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) officers across all levels of the organisation were responsible for the drafting of briefs for the February 2014 Additional Budget Estimates. Two ACCC officers were responsible for the coordination and collation of briefing packs for ACCC witnesses.
- 426. A range of ACCC officers across all levels of the organisation were responsible for the drafting of briefs for the February 2014 Additional Budget Estimates. It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources to determine the time spent on the drafting of briefs by these staff.

In terms of the coordination and collation of briefing packs for ACCC witnesses, approximately 9 total hours were spent by the two ACCC officers conducting this work.

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a. A breakdown of the time spent on the coordination and collation of briefing packs by staff classification is set out in the below table.

Staff classification	Number of staff	Hours spent
APS 6	1	6
APS 5	1	3

427. No

a. Not applicable

b. Not applicable

428. No

a. Not applicable

b. Not applicable

c. Not applicable

429. Information on briefing provided to Ministers and briefing for estimates purposes is not normally made publicly available in order to maintain the agency's ability to properly and effectively brief Ministers and brief for estimates purposes.