

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
 Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
 2015-16 Additional Budget Estimates
 19 February 2016

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Red tape reduction

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Ludwig

QUESTION No.: AI-54

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. Please detail changes to structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the government's red tape reduction targets?
1. 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. What is the estimated total salary cost of the officers assigned to the unit.
7. Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?
8. 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.
9. What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?

ANSWER

1. Please detail changes to structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the government's red tape reduction targets?	The Branch responsible for regulation reform has undergone a name change from the Regulation Reform and Parliamentary Coordination Branch to the Strategic Engagement and Business Productivity Branch.
2. What is the progress of that red tape reduction target	The Government's progress towards the red tape reduction target is available on https://cuttingredtape.gov.au/resources/track-our-progress
3. How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?	The staffing profile as at 31 January 2016 is: 1.00 – APS4 2.00 – APS5 7.00 – APS6 4.00 – EL1 2.00 – EL2 0.75 – SES.

<p>4. How have they been recruited?</p> <p>5. What process was used for their appointment?</p>	<p>The department has recruited staff from the portfolio through internal recruitment, and externally from across the Australian Public Service.</p>
<p>6. What is the total cost of this unit?</p>	<p>The actual cost (including salary) of the Strategic Engagement and Business Productivity Branch responsible for delivering the Regulation Reform Agenda from 15 September 2015 to 31 January 2016 is \$778,945.</p>
<p>7. What is the estimated total salary cost of the officers assigned to the unit.</p>	<p>The actual salary cost of the Strategic Engagement and Business Productivity Branch responsible for delivering the Regulation Reform Agenda from 15 September 2015 to 31 January 2016 is \$747,109.</p>
<p>8. Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>
<p>9. 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.</p>	<p>All of the officers have a minimum baseline (Protected) clearance. For the protection of departmental officers, individual names and clearance levels are not disclosed as this could compromise the integrity of the department's information security arrangements.</p>
<p>10. What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?</p>	<p>Strategic Engagement and Business Productivity Branch</p>