

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: TREASURY

Question: AET 973-981

Topic: Red Tape Reduction

Reference: written - 19 February 2016

Senator: Ludwig, Joe

Question:

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?
 - a) 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. Treasury has a Regulatory Reform Unit responsible for facilitating and coordinating red tape reduction across the Treasury Portfolio.

a) To date the Government's annual red tape reduction target has been exceeded. Details can be found in the Australian Government Annual Deregulation Reports and Repeal Day Overview documents at cuttingredtape.gov.au.

2. Refer to table below.

Level	Number*
EL2	4
EL 1	1

APS 3	1
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* Number of staff is an estimate of full-time-equivalent (FTE). The hours of part-time staff can vary which impacts the FTE estimate.

3. Recruitment for non-SES roles has been by lateral transfer from staff elsewhere in the Treasury.
4. See Q3.
5. Treasury does not allocate budgets at a unit level and therefore it is difficult to estimate the total cost of the Unit above the salary cost (which is stated below).
6. The estimated salary cost for the employees of the Regulatory Reform Unit is \$963,000.
7. Yes
8. All staff members within the Regulatory Reform Unit have a minimum security classification of Protected.
9. Regulatory Reform Unit.