

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-15
23 October 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Red Tape Reduction

REFERENCE: Written Question - Senator Carr

QUESTION No.: SI-129

1. Please detail what 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 and 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. A Regulation Reform Unit has been established. It consists of Deregulation Policy Section, Regulation Knowledge Management Section, and the Strategic Projects Section.
 - a. The Government's progress towards the Red Tape Reduction target is available on www.cuttingredtape.gov.au/
2. The Regulation Reform Unit is comprised of 20.35 FTE and includes 2 APS5, 6 APS6, 8.92 EL1, 2.68 EL2, and 0.75 SES, as of 22 October 2014. In addition, there are 2 graduates assisting the Branch.
- 3.-4. The Department has recruited staff from the portfolio through an internal mobility process.
5. The non-salary cost of the Regulation Reform Unit for the financial year 2014 - 15, up to 22 October 2014, is \$8,750
6. The total salary cost of the Regulation Reform Unit for the financial year 2014 - 15, up to 22 October 2014, is approximately \$623,000.
7. Yes.
8. All of the officers have been issued with at least a minimum baseline (Protected) clearance. For the protection of departmental officers, individual names, dates, and clearance levels are not disclosed as this could compromise the integrity of the department's information security arrangements.

9. The unit is part of the Regulation Reform and Parliamentary Coordination Branch and has no formal separate name.