

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Education Question No. ED0101_14

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

**Question
Ministerial office security Classifications**

- 1) What is the policy for ministerial staff security clearances?
- 2) How many staffers employed by the government under the MOPS Act have security clearances? a. At what level? b. If not, why not?
- 3) How many seconded departmental officers acting in ministerial offices, including DLOs have security clearances? a. At what level? b. If not, why not

Answer

1) and 2) The Department of Finance has responsibility for the employment arrangements of ministerial staff appointed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*.

3) All seconded departmental officers providing relief in portfolio ministerial offices and Departmental Liaison Officers have security clearances. Security clearance levels range from baseline to Negative Vetting Level 1.