

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM1392_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Senate estimates briefing

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. How many officers have been responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates?
2. How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information?
 - a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification
3. 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?
4. 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?
5. 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

- 1 - 4) The department routinely prepares Senate Estimates briefing material for its Ministers. The specific detail requested is not readily available and would require an unreasonable diversion of resources to provide.
- 5) Details of briefings provided to the Minister are not made publicly available in order to maintain the confidentiality and effectiveness of the advice.