

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

**Group: 3**

**Program: Whole-of-Portfolio**

**Question No. SBE14/104**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following written question from the 20 November and 11 December 2014 hearings.**

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?
2. What is the progress of that red tape reduction target
3. How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?
4. How have they been recruited?
5. What process was used for their appointment?
6. What is the total cost of this unit?
7. What is the estimated total salary cost of the officers assigned to the unit
8. Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?
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.
10. What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

1. The Attorney-General's Department has established a Deregulation Unit for the portfolio.
2. The Government is reporting on its progress at [www.cuttingredtape.gov.au](http://www.cuttingredtape.gov.au).
3. As at 20 November 2014, four officers are assigned to the Deregulation Unit – a Senior Executive Service Band 1, an Executive Level 2, and two broadband APS5-6 officers. However, some of these staff work part time and/or have responsibilities for work other than deregulation.
4. Staff have been transferred from other areas of the Department
5. See the response to question 4 above.
6. Normal salary applicable to the roles.
7. See the response to question 6 above.

8. Yes.
9. The officers in the Unit have appropriate security clearances for the material they are accessing.
10. The unit is called the Deregulation Unit.