

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

#### IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

#### (SE14/261) PROGRAMME – Internal Product

Senator Ludwig (Written) asked:

Please detail what structures, officials, offices, units, taskforce or other processes has the department dedicated to meeting the government's red tape reduction targets?

1. 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:*

As at 20 October 2014, the Immigration and Border Protection portfolio (the portfolio) has a dedicated deregulation unit, led by a designated SES officer.

1. The portfolio is progressing towards its 2014 red tape reduction target and expects to achieve the target by the final reporting period in December 2014.
2. As at 20 October 2014, the portfolio's deregulation unit includes one Executive Level 2 officer, six Executive Level 1 officers and two APS 6 officers. One of these APS 6 officers was on a temporary assignment with another work area until November 2014.
3. The portfolio's deregulation unit staff were recruited internally through an Expression of Interest process or were appointed by internal reassignment of existing resources. The Executive Level 2 officer was on a six month transfer from the Department of the Treasury.
4. See response to Question 3.
5. The total cost of the portfolio's deregulation unit from 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014 is \$429 167.

6. The salary cost of the portfolio's deregulation unit from 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014 is \$377 159.
7. Officers who hold the appropriate security clearance have access to relevant cabinet documents on a need to know basis.
8. As at 20 October 2014, the security classification and date the classification issued for each officer in the portfolio's deregulation unit is as follows:

SES officer – Negative Vetting 2 granted 23/04/2010

EL2 officer – Negative Vetting 1 granted 04/06/2008

EL1 officer – Negative Vetting 1 granted 20/11/2007

EL1 officer – Negative Vetting 2 granted 27/02/2014

EL1 officer – Negative Vetting 1 granted 17/07/2006

EL1 officer - Negative Vetting 1 granted 5/12/2007

EL1 officer – Negative Vetting 1 granted 27/06/2012

EL1 officer – Baseline granted 10/07/2001

APS6 officer – Baseline granted 26/01/2012

APS6 officer – Baseline granted 12/04/2011

9. The formal name given to the portfolio's deregulation unit is the Deregulation Section.