

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission

Outcome/Program: Cross Portfolio

Topic: Senate Estimates briefing

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: 191

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 April 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. How many officers were 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 Australian Public Service Commission routinely prepares Senate Estimates briefing material for the Minister. The specific detail requested is not readily available and would require an unreasonable diversion of resources to provide.
5. Information on briefing provided to Ministers is not normally made publically available in order to maintain agencies' ability to properly and effectively brief Ministers.