

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**BUDGET ESTIMATES (ADDITIONAL HEARINGS) 2013-2014**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman

**Outcome/Program:**

Outcome 1. Fair and accountable administrative action by Australian Government agencies by investigating complaints, reviewing administrative action and inspecting statutory compliance by law enforcement agencies.

**Topic:** Red Tape Reduction

**Senator:** Senator Ludwig

**Question reference number:** 195

**Type of question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

- (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?
  - a. 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) Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?
- (7) 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?
- (8) What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?

**Answer:**

- (1) The Portfolio has established its Deregulation Unit: it sits within the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. The Office will contribute to the requirements of the Deregulation Unit as required.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) Not applicable.
- (7) Not applicable.
- (8) Not applicable.