

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

**Group 3**

**Program 1.2**

**Question No. 58**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 18 November 2013:**

Since being sworn in as Minister,

1. Has the Justice Minister contacted or been contacted by the Australian Government Reconstruction Inspectorate (the Inspectorate)?

If so,

- a) how did the Minister contact the Inspectorate?
- b) What was the nature of the contact?
- c) What did issues did the Minister raise with the Inspectorate?

2. Has the Minister met the Taskforce in person?

If so,

- a) who?
- b) when?
- c) what did they discuss?
- d) What did issues did the Minister raise with the Inspectorate?

3. When will the Minister next make contact with the Inspectorate?

4. For 1. and 2. above; If not, why not?

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

1. The Department is not aware of any contact between the Minister for Justice and the Australian Government Reconstruction Inspectorate (the Inspectorate), to 18 November 2013. However, the department may not be aware of all contact at ministerial level.
2. The Department is not aware of any meeting between the Minister for Justice and the Inspectorate to 18 November 2013.
3. The Department is not able to answer this question.
4. The Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Warren Truss MP, is responsible for oversight of the Queensland reconstruction and recovery effort associated with flooding and cyclone events between November 2010 and January 2013. The Inspectorate

oversees reconstruction activities to provide assurance that value for money is obtained for the expenditure of both Commonwealth and State funds.