

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

**Question No. 88**

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

Ministerial office security classifications

1. What is the policy for ministerial staff security clearances?
2. How many staffers employed by the government under the MOPS Act have security clearances?
  - a) At what level?
  - b) If not, why not?
3. How many seconded departmental officers acting in ministerial offices, including DLOs have security clearances?
  - a) At what level?
  - b) If not, why not

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

1-2. This is a matter for the Special Minister of State.

3. As at 18 November 2013 there were nine transitional staff and three departmental liaison officers from the Attorney-General's Department located in portfolio ministers' offices. All departmental officers hold security clearances.

a)

Top Secret Positive Vetting	2
Positive Vetting	2
Negative Vetting Level 2	5
Negative Vetting Level 1 (Baseline)	3

b) Not applicable.