

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2010-11 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** Cross

**Question No:** 004

**Topic:** Office for Women – Security Clearances

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Cash** asked:

- What level of security clearance do staff of the Office of Women have?
- What is the highest level of security clearance in the Office of Women?

**Answer:**

Office of Women staff requiring access to security classified information at the PROTECTED, CONFIDENTIAL, HIGHLY PROTECTED and SECRET level are required to undertake and maintain security clearances commensurate with the classification of information accessed. Note: This includes Cabinet-In-Confidence information.

The highest level of security clearance held by Office of Women staff is Negative Vetting Level 2. Under the Protective Security Policy Framework security clearance guidelines, Negative Vetting Level 2 provides ongoing access to SECRET classified information.