Question No: 419

Program No. ACMA

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Red Tape Reduction

Senator Ludwig asked:
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?
   1.1 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. What is the estimated total salary cost of the officers assigned to the unit?
7. Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?
8. 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.
9. What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?

Answer:
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?**
Richard Bean (ACMA Deputy Chair) is the ACMA representative on the Communications portfolio deregulation working group, and is responsible for managing the ACMA response to the government's red tape reduction targets.

There is no formal deregulation unit, with the work undertaken by each Division in the ACMA, working in conjunction with relevant areas in the Department to identify opportunities to reduce or remove unnecessary red tape.

1.1 What is the progress of that red tape reduction target
The communications portfolio has met its red tape reduction target, with the ACMA removing close to 3000 pages of redundant regulation in the media and communications sector.

2. **How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?**
Staff across a number of areas of the ACMA contribute to red tape reduction-related activities along with their other usual activities.

3. **How have they been recruited?**
No additional staff have been recruited to undertake deregulatory work in the ACMA.

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4. What process was used for their appointment?
Not applicable.

5. What is the total cost of this unit?
There is no dedicated ACMA deregulation unit. The ACMA's red tape reduction work is being conducted within existing resources and no funding has been redirected to red tape reduction and deregulation work.

6. What is the estimated total salary cost of the officers assigned to the unit?
Not applicable.

7. Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents?
Not applicable.

8. 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.
The work is being undertaken by existing staff with their current security classifications.

9. What is the formal name given to this unit/taskforce/team/workgroup or agency within the department?
Not applicable.