

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Treasury Portfolio
Budget Estimates 2014
3 June to 5 June 2014

Department/ Agency: ABS

Question: BET 1254-1258

Topic: Senate Estimates Briefing

Reference: Written – 12 June 2014

Senator: Ludwig

Question:

1254. How many officers were responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates?
1255. How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information? a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification
1256. Were drafts shown to the Minister or their office before senate estimates? a. If so, when did this occur? b. How many versions of this information were shown to the minister or their office?
1257. Did the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information?
 - a. If so, when did this occur?
 - b. What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification.
 - c. When were the changes made?
1258. Provide each of the contents page of the Department/Minister/representing Minister's Senate Estimates folder prepared by the department for the Budget Estimates hearings in June 2014.

Answer:

1254. ABS officers prepare Senate Estimates Briefings for ABS attendees as part of their normal duties and accordingly, the ABS does not separately record the number of officers involved in the preparation of Senate Estimates briefings, nor the time spent by officers in preparing the briefings.
1255. As above.
1256. No.
1257. N/A.
1258. Information on briefings is not normally made publically available in order to maintain Agencies' ability to properly and effectively brief Ministers.