

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2014 - 2015

Department/Agency: ABS

Question: SBT633-637

Topic: Senate Estimates Briefing

Reference: Written - 30 October 2014

Senator: Ludwig, Joe

Question:

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

633. How many officers have been responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates?
634. How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information?
 - a) Please break down the hours by officer APS classification
635. 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?
636. 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?
637. Provide each of the contents pages of the Department/Minister/representing Minister's Senate Estimates folder prepared by the department for the Additional Estimates hearings in February 2014.

Answer:

633. 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.
634. As above.
635. No.
636. N/A.
637. Information on briefings is not normally made publically available in order to maintain Agencies' ability to properly and effectively brief Ministers.