

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2014-2015

Agency - Fair Work Commission

Department of Employment Question No. EM0359_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

FWC - Red tape reduction

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. 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. As part of Stage 1 of the deregulation agenda, in March 2014 the Commission provided questionnaire responses to the Department of Employment regarding the regulatory burden that the Commission places upon third parties. Responses covered:
 - Application forms to commence proceedings in both the Commission and the Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal (RSRT)
 - Fair Work Commission Rules and RSRT Rules
 - The General Manager's reporting obligations under s.653 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*
 - The General Manager's reporting guidelines under s.255 of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*.
2. The Reporting, Planning and Legal Team, which sits in the Corporate Services Branch of the Fair Work Commission, is responsible for providing information and responses to the Department of Employment regarding the government's red tape reduction agenda. As the regulatory burden imposed by the Commission is limited, the workload associated with meeting the Government's red tape

reduction agenda has been absorbed into the Reporting, Planning and Legal Team and no additional staff have been allocated to the Team.

3. Refer to answer to question 2, above.
4. Refer to answer to question 2, above.
5. Refer to answer to question 2, above.
6. Refer to answer to question 2, above.
7. Members of the Reporting, Planning and Legal Team do not have access to Cabinet documents.
8. No Team members have been issued with a security classification.
9. Refer to answer to question 2, above.