

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM1176_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Red tape reduction

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? a. 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 refer to our previous response to Question No. EM0065_14.

a) The Prime Minister reported the Government's progress towards meeting its \$1 billion red tape reduction target in a statement to the House of Representatives on 22 October 2014.

The *Australian Government Spring Repeal Day October 2014* paper, publicly available on the Cutting Red Tape website, provides a summary of the Government's deregulation initiatives. Included in that paper are Employment portfolio deregulatory savings reported or announced since the 2014 Autumn Repeal Day:

- assisting small businesses through the Fair Work Ombudsman's Small Business Helpline (update)
- assisting Job Services Australia providers and employers
- delivering projects on time through the Building and Construction Industry Building Code
- the Australian Government Building and Construction Occupational Health and Safety Accreditation Scheme.

2. Please refer to our previous response to Question No. EM0065_14.

3. Please refer to our previous response to Question No. EM0344_14.

4. Please refer to our previous response to Question No. EM0065_14.
5. Please refer to our previous response to Question No. EM0065_14.
6. The total salary cost of officers assigned to the Deregulation Unit varies with resourcing for the section and resourcing changes depending on the volume and nature of the material the section is required to action.
7. Please refer to our previous response to Question No. EM0065_14.
8. Please refer to our previous response to Question No. EM0065_14.
9. Please refer to our previous response to Question No EM0344_14.