

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2013

Communications Portfolio

Department of Communications

Question No: 44

Program No. Legal

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?
2. What is the process of that red tape reduction target?
3. How many officers have been placed in those units and at what level?
4. How have they been recruited?
5. What process was used for appointment?
6. What is the total cost of this 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.

Answer:

1. The portfolio has established its Deregulation Unit. Resourcing for the Deregulation Unit, including staffing levels and classifications, will however vary from time to time depending on the volume and nature of the material the unit is required to action. The Deregulation Unit was, and will continue to be, staffed from existing resources.
2. The Government is currently considering arrangements for the implementation of the deregulation agenda.
3. See answer to question 1.
4. See answer to question 1.
5. See answer to question 1.
6. See answer to question 1.
7. No additional security clearances are proposed to be provided to Deregulation Unit members.
8. See answers to questions 1 and 7.