

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2013–2014

#### Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM0344\_14

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) Do members of the unit have access to cabinet documents? 7) 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. 8) 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 special statement to the House of Representatives on 19 March 2014. *The Australian Government Autumn Repeal Day March 2014* paper which provides a detailed summary of the Government's deregulation initiatives was published on 20 March 2014. The Employment portfolio matters included in that paper were:

- introducing the Fair Work Ombudsman Small Business Helpline
- lifting the moratorium on new entrants to the Comcare scheme
- introducing the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Legislation Amendment Bill 2014
- reducing the regulatory burden for Job Services Australia providers
- improving the Fair Work laws, consistent with the Government's *Policy to Improve the Fair Work Laws*
- re-establishing the Australian Building and Construction Commission and associated legislation
- repealing the Fair Work Principles and discontinuing the *Commonwealth Cleaning Services Guidelines* from 1 July 2014
- reviewing the Australian Government Building and Construction Occupational Health and Safety Accreditation Scheme
- repealing the *Construction Industry Reform and Development Act 1992*.

2. Please refer to our previous response to Question No. EM0065\_14.
3. Officers in the section are existing ongoing employees of the Department of Employment.
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. Please refer to our previous response to Question No. EM0065\_14.
7. Please refer to our previous response to Question No. EM0065\_14.
8. The formal name of the team is the Deregulation Unit.