

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Group 3

Program 1.2

Question No. 51

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 18 November 2013:

1. Can you confirm that the Justice Minister is now responsible for Emergency Management Australia?
 - a) If not, who is?
2. Is the Justice Minister responsible for oversight of the Commonwealth's contribution to the Queensland natural disasters in 2011 and 2013?
 - a) If not, who is?
3. Is the Justice Minister responsible for the Commonwealth National Disaster Recovery Taskforce?
 - a) If not, who is?
 - b) What department is the Commonwealth National Disaster Recovery Taskforce contained?
4. Is the Justice Minister responsible for the Australian Government Reconstruction Inspectorate?
 - a) If not, who is?
 - b) What department is the Australian Government Reconstruction Inspectorate contained in?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1. Yes.
2. The Justice Minister, the Hon Michael Keenan MP, is responsible for the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements, through which the Commonwealth provides funding to the Queensland Government for natural disasters in 2011 and 2013.

The Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Warren Truss MP, is responsible for additional oversight of the reconstruction and recovery effort associated with Queensland flooding and cyclones events in 2011 and 2013 under the National Partnership Agreement for Natural Disaster Reconstruction and Recovery with Queensland.

3. No.
 - a) The Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Warren Truss MP, is responsible for the Commonwealth National Disaster Recovery Taskforce (the Taskforce).
 - b) The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

4.No.

- a) The Australian Government Reconstruction Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) reports directly to the Prime Minister.
- b) The Inspectorate is supported by the Taskforce within the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development.