

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

**Corporate/cross-portfolio/general**

**Question No. 93**

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

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.

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

1. The Department has established a Deregulation Unit. The Government has a \$1 billion annual regulation cost reduction target. The Attorney-General's portfolio will contribute to this.
2. Four officers are assigned to the Unit – a Senior Executive Service Band 1 level officer, an Executive Level 2 officer and two officers at the APS5-6 level.
3. Staff have been transferred from other areas of the Department.
4. See the response to question 3 above.
5. Normal salary applicable to the roles.
6. Yes.
7. The officers in the Unit have appropriate clearances for the material they are accessing.