

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013

#### IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

#### (SE13/0215) PROGRAMME – Internal Product

Senator Ludwig (Written) 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?  
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.

*Answer:*

- 1.) The Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) has established a Portfolio Deregulation Unit led by a Senior Executive Service Band 1 officer and managed by an Executive Level 2 officer, with one Executive Level 1 officer, and plans to add three more officers. This unit will coordinate action on the deregulation agenda for the portfolio, with resources and assistance from portfolio partners, such as the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS). The ACBPS will establish a Deregulation Unit to coordinate its input and response.
  - a. DIBP and the ACBPS are identifying opportunities to reduce unnecessary red tape burdens on business, individuals and the community.
- 2.) The Portfolio Deregulation Unit is staffed by a Senior Executive Service Band 1 officer, an Executive Level 2 officer, with one Executive Level 1 officer. Three more officers will be added. It is anticipated that the ACBPS Deregulation Unit will be led by an Executive Level 2 officer, assisted by two Executive Level 1 officers and a Customs Level 3 officer.
- 3.) Staff were recruited internally.
- 4.) Initial staff allocations to the Portfolio Deregulation Unit were made from existing resources in the designated work area and additional staff will be sought through an internal Expression of Interest process. As at 19 November 2013, the ACBPS has not established its deregulation team.
- 5.) At this point, the anticipated cost of the Portfolio Deregulation Unit for the six months to July 2014 will be around \$320 000. The anticipated costs of the

ACBPS Deregulation Unit for the six months to July 2014 are \$172 162.  
These costs will be absorbed.

6.) Yes.

7.) For the Portfolio Deregulation Unit.

SES Band 1 – Top Secret granted 23/04/2010

EL2 – Confidential granted 17/12/2007

EL1 – Secret granted 20/11/2007

As at 19 November 2013, the ACBPS has not established its Deregulation Unit, though all ACBPS officers have a minimum security clearance of Protected.