

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2011-12 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross

Question No: 36

Topic: Freedom of Information

Hansard Page: Written

Senator McKenzie asked:

How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many have been denied and how many granted? Did the department fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?

Answer:

[Please note that this response replaces that originally provided in February 2012. This response provides the corrected answer for FOI requests received for the 2011-12 financial year up to and including 10 February 2012.]

The Department received 56 FOI requests from 1 July 2011 to 10 February 2012.

Of these 56 requests:

- 44 were finalised, of which:
 - 18 were granted;
 - 3 were denied; and
 - 23 were either withdrawn or transferred.

As at 10 February 2012, 12 requests received in the current financial year remained on hand.

The Department failed to finalise requests within the statutory timeframes for 2 requests in the current financial year. Neither of these requests remains outstanding.