

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-14, 20 November 2013

Question: E13-075

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Freedom of Information

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Ludwig

Question:

- a) What resources does the department commit to its Freedom of Information team?
- b) List the staffing resources by APS level assigned solely to Freedom of Information requests.
- c) List the staffing resources by APS level assigned indirectly to Freedom of Information requests.
- d) Does the department ever second additional resources to processing Freedom of Information requests?
- e) If so, please detail those resources by APS level.

Answer:

- a) The Department of Health currently has 6 officers committed to the functions associated with processing freedom of information requests.
- b) Executive Level 2, Executive Level 1 (2 officers), APS6, APS5 and APS4.
- c) Departmental staff of all levels and areas of the Department are involved in processing freedom of information requests to the extent that documents are related to their area of responsibility or to provide assistance to the Freedom of Information team.
- d) The Department has engaged external law firms and consultants to assist with processing voluminous requests.
- e) No APS personnel were involved in d).