

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

13 – 14 February 2013

Question: AET 216-218

Topic: Freedom of Information

Written: Received from Committee – 22 February 2013

Senator BUSHBY asked:

216. Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
217. What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date (22 February 2013)?
- 218.
- a. How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date (22 February 2013)?
 - b. How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted?
 - c. Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many and why?
 - d. Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?

Answer:

216. The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner has issued guidelines under section 93A of the Freedom of Information Act 1982. The guidelines are updated periodically and were last updated in January 2013.
217. Costs are prepared at the end of each financial year and reported to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner for inclusion in their Freedom of Information Annual Report. There are currently no figures available for this financial year.
- 218.
- a. Treasury received 91 requests.
 - b. Access denied — 22 requests; access granted — 17 requests.
 - c. No.
 - d. 9 requests are current and being processed within the statutory timeframe. No other requests are outstanding.