

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

17 October – 18 October 2012

Question: SBT 1113-1114

Topic: Government Payments of Accounts (PC)

Written: Received from Committee – 26 October 2012

Senator BUSHBY asked:

1113. For this financial year to date (26 October 2012), has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?
- If not, why not? Provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached)
 - For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
 - Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?
1114. For 2011-12, did the department/agency pay its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?
- If not, why not? Provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached)
 - For accounts not paid within 30 days, is/was interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
 - Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?
 - Have all accounts from 2011-12 been paid? If no, why not?

Answer:

1113.

- For the financial year to 26 October 2012, 99.5% of accounts have been paid within 30 days of a correctly rendered invoice. With respect to the 0.5% of payments not paid within 30 days, delays are mainly associated with receipt of incorrect or incomplete invoices and/or differences in respect of the amounts charged or services provided. All suppliers identified as small businesses were paid within 30 days.
- There have been no claims for payment of interest on overdue accounts.
- Not applicable.

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

17 October – 18 October 2012

1114.

- a) For the financial year 2011-12, 99% of accounts have been paid within 30 days of a correctly rendered invoice. With respect to the 1% of payments not paid within 30 days, delays are mainly associated with receipt of incorrect or incomplete invoices and/or differences in respect of the amounts charged or services provided. All suppliers identified as small businesses were paid within 30 days.
- b) There have been no claims for payment of interest on overdue accounts.
- c) Not applicable.
- d) Yes.