

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

17 October – 18 October 2012

Question: SBT 699-707

Topic: Freedom of Information (ASIC)

Written: Received from Committee – 26 October 2012

Senator BUSHBY asked:

699. Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
700. What is the total cost to the department/agency to process FOI requests for 2011-12?
701. How many FOI requests did the department/agency receive in 2011-12?
702. How many requests were denied and how many were granted?
703. Did the department fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests?
- a. If so, how many?
- b. Do any of these requests remain outstanding?
704. What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date (26 October 2012)?
705. How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date (26 October 2012)?
706. How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted?
707. Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests?
- a. If so, how many and why?
- b. Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?

Answer:

699. ASIC regularly consults with the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner on the operation of the FOI Act.
700. ASIC does not maintain records on the cost of processing FOI requests by ASIC staff.
701. There were a total of 270 requests received.
702. Granted: 106.
Denied: 110
Withdrawn: 52

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Not all matters were concluded during the period.

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b. No. Where necessary, extensions of time were obtained from the OAIC.

704. ASIC does not maintain records on the cost of processing FOI requests by ASIC staff.

705. For this financial year (1 July 2012) to date (26 October 2012) the number of FOI requests received is 67.

706. For the period 1 July to 26 October 2012 the results were as follows.

Granted = 26

Denied = 15

Some matters have been withdrawn and some matters are still under consideration..

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b. No. An extension of time in respect of these matters was granted by the OAIC.