

Department/Agency: Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security

Outcome/Program: Outcome 1

Topic: Freedom of Information

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number:191

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 17 January 2014

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- 1) Can the department please outline the process it under goes to access Freedom of Information requests?
- 2) Does the department consult or inform the Minister when it receives Freedom of Information requests?
 - a. If so, when?
 - b. If so, how does this occur?
- 3) Does the department consult or inform other departments or agencies when it receives Freedom of Information requests?
 - a. If so, which departments or agencies?
 - b. If so, when?
 - c. If so, how does this occur?
- 4) Does the department consult or inform the Minister when or before it makes a decision on a Freedom of Information request?
 - a. If so, when?
 - b. If so, how does this occur?
- 5) Does the department consult or inform other departments or agencies when or before it makes a decision on a Freedom of Information request?
 - a. If so, which departments or agencies?
 - b. If so, when?
 - c. If so, how does this occur?
- 6) What resources does the department commit to its Freedom of Information team?
- 7) List the staffing resources by APS level assigned solely to Freedom of Information requests
- 8) List the staffing resources by APS level assigned indirectly to Freedom of Information requests
- 9) Does the department ever second addition resources to processing Freedom of Information requests?
 - a. If so, please detail those resources by APS level
- 10) How many officers are currently designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the department?
 - a. How does this differ to the number of officers designated as at 6 September 2013?
- 11) How many officers are currently designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Minister's office?
 - a. How does this differ to the number of officers designated as at 6 September 2013?

- 12) Of the officers that are designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 within the Ministers office, how many are seconded officers from the department?
- 13) What training does the department provide to designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act who work within the department?
 - a. Of the officers designated as decision makers within the department, how many have received formal training?
 - b. Of the officers designated as decision makers within the department, how many have received informal training?
 - c. How long after each officers appointment as a designated decision maker did they receive formal training?
 - d. What did the training involve?
 - e. How long was the training?
 - f. By whom was the training conducted?
- 14) What training does the department provide to designated decision makers under the Freedom of Information Act who work within the Minister's office, excluding those officers on secondment from the department?
 - a. Of the officers designated as decision makers, how many have received formal training?
 - b. Of the officers designated as decision makers, how many have received informal training?
 - c. How long after each officers appointment as a designated decision maker did they receive formal training?
 - d. What did the training involve?
 - e. How long was the training?
 - f. By whom was the training conducted?

Answer:

1. OIGIS is an exempt agency for FOI purposes. However, the Inspector-General has a specific role under the FOI Act to provide specialist evidence to the Information Commissioner and the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) in certain cases.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. If requested by the Information Commissioner or the AAT, the Inspector-General personally must give evidence in certain FOI matters. When such a request is received the Inspector-General may task other staff to assist in preparing such evidence.
7. OIGIS has no staff assigned solely to FOI requests.
8. Some time of an SES Band 1 and an EL2 officer is involved in assisting the Inspector-General in preparing evidence for two current AAT cases.
9. OIGIS does not second additional resources to processing FOI requests.
10. OIGIS has no designated decision makers under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.
11. OIGIS has no officers within the Minister's office.
12. Not applicable.
13. Not applicable.
14. Not applicable.