

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 202

**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates

**Outcome:** Corporate

**Programme:** Policy and Communications Division

**Topic:** Portfolio wide – Freedom of Information

**Hansard Page:** N/A

**Question Date:** 27 November 2013

**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

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:**

The Department provides support and assistance to the Minister's Office in processing Freedom of Information requests, in particular through the search of shared resources and transfer of requests in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) and Guidelines issued by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner.

The Minister is independent of the Department for the purposes of the FOI Act, and is therefore solely responsible for matters associated with processing Freedom of Information requests he receives.

**Clean Energy Regulator**

The Clean Energy Regulator does not provide training to persons employed within the Minister's office.

No person in the Minister's office is authorised to make a decision in relation to a Freedom of Information request made to the Clean Energy Regulator.

### **Climate Change Authority**

The Climate Change Authority has no officers working in the Minister's office.

- a) Not applicable
- b) Not applicable
- c) Not applicable
- d) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- f) Not applicable

### **Bureau of Meteorology**

Not applicable

### **Murray Darling Basin Authority**

Not applicable

### **National Water Commission**

A to F not applicable

### **Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority**

There are no designated decision makers under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority within the Minister's office.

### **Sydney Harbour Federation Trust**

The Trust provides support and assistance to the Minister's Office in processing Freedom of Information requests, in particular through the search of shared resources and transfer of requests in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) and Guidelines issued by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner.

The Minister is independent of the Trust for the purposes of the FOI Act, and is therefore solely responsible for matters associated with processing Freedom of Information requests he receives.