

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee:  
Answers to written Questions on Notice Budget Estimates 2014–15  
Parliamentary Departments Portfolio  
May 2014**

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<b>Department</b>	Parliamentary Budget Office
<b>Topic</b>	Government payments of accounts
<b>Senator</b>	Senator Ludwig
<b>Question reference number</b>	125
<b>Type of question</b>	Written

**Question**

- 1 From Additional Estimates in February, 2014 to date, what has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?
- 2 How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?
- 3 How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?
- 4 How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?
- 5 How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days?
- 6 How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?
- 7 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 since Additional Estimates in February, 2014?
- 8 Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

**Answer**

- 1 For the period 1 March 2014 to 31 May 2014, the average time the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) paid its accounts was 19 days.
- 2 For the period 1 March 2014 to 31 May 2014, 60 invoices or 98.3 per cent have been paid within 30 days.
- 3 For the period 1 March 2014 to 31 May 2014, one invoice or 1.7 per cent have been paid between 30 and 60 days.

- 4 Nil.
- 5 Nil.
- 6 Nil.
- 7 No interest has been charged for invoices paid outside the 30 day period.
- 8 Not applicable.