

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2013-14 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** Cross Outcome - Across Programs

**Question No:** 185

**Topic:** Freedom of Information

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Ludwig** asked:

What efforts have been made to make FOI PDFs accessible to members of the public who have disabilities?

**Answer:**

Where the original of a document that has been marked as being part of an FOI request is in electronic format, every effort is made to preserve its machine readability. The nature of FOI requests however, mean that many of the documents are scanned from hard copies of documents. These documents often include hand written notes and are redacted to a point where optical character recognition is not reliable within the PDF format. In this case PDF documents may remain as scanned images.