

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2012-13 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** Cross

**Question No:** 485

**Topic:** Shredders

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator McKenzie** asked:

Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders in the last 12 months? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.

**Answer:**

The Department purchased a total of 15 Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) endorsed paper shredders this financial year.

The cost of shredders varies depending on size and class. The average cost of an endorsed paper shredder is approximately \$4,664.37 GST Inclusive. The Department spent a total of \$69,965.50 GST inclusive on endorsed paper shredders this financial year to date to 4 June 2012.

ASIO endorsed paper shredders are used for the destruction of information classified PROTECTED and above, including CABINET-IN-CONFIDENCE. FaHCSIA's obligations to destroy Cabinet documents are subject to detailed security requirements outlined in the Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF) and as determined by the Cabinet Secretariat.

Shredding machines are approved by the Security Construction Equipment Committee (SCEC) on the basis of their fitness for security purposes. The guidelines on the use of shredding machines are outlined in the Attorney-General's Department Security Circulars No 52 and No 73.

Information from the Portfolio agencies is not able to be provided without the use of significant resources.