

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 5-6 JUNE 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: FOI Requests

Question reference number: HS 117

Senator: Ludwig

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 25 July 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Since September 7, 2013:

- a) How many requests for documents under the FOI Act have been received?
- b) Of these, how many documents have been determined to be deliberative documents?
- c) Of those assessed as deliberative documents:
 - i) For how many has access to the document been refused on the basis that it would be contrary to the public interest?
 - ii) For how many has a redacted document been provided?

Answer:

- a) For the period 7 September 2013 to 31 March 2014 the department received 2,462 valid FOI requests.
- b) - c) It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources for the department to review all decisions on FOI requests to determine in each request how many documents within the scope of each request were determined to be deliberative.