

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-208

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: FOI REQUESTS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) How many FOI requests has the Department received?
- b) How many have been granted or denied?
- c) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?
- d) Has the Department/agency received any FOI requests for its Incoming Government Brief ('Red Book')?
- e) If yes, when and will it be released?
- f) Has the Department/agency received any FOI requests for its Incoming Government Brief ('Blue Book')?
- g) If yes, when and will it be released?

Answer:

- a) The department had 42 requests on hand at 30 June 2010. From 1 July 2009 to 31 October 2010, the Department received 71 requests.
- b) During the period 1 July 2009 to 31 October 2010, decisions were made on 68 requests:
  - 5 requests had access granted in full;
  - 16 requests had access granted in part;
  - 11 requests had access refused (including cases where no relevant document could be found in possession of the Department);
  - 35 requests were withdrawn; and
  - 1 request was transferred to another agency.45 requests remained outstanding at 31 October 2010.
- c) Nil.
- d) Yes.
- e) The Incoming Government Brief was published on the Department's website on 2 December 2010 based on the FOI exemptions existing prior to 1 November 2010. Another version of the Incoming Government Brief was published on the Department's website on 7 January 2011 based on the FOI exemptions post 1 November 2010.
- f) Yes.
- g) Any requests for Incoming Government Brief (Blue Book) were withdrawn.