

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2014**  
**Communications Portfolio**  
**Department of Communications**

**Question No: 24**

**Program No. 1.1**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: FOI Requests**

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

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

**Answers:**

1. 15 requests have been received under the Freedom of Information Act this financial year (2014-2015).
2. It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's resources to answer this question at a document level. Exemptions claimed at a request level are recorded in the quarterly FOI statistical return provided to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner.
3. It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's resources to answer this question at a document level.