

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

2015 - 2016

Department/Agency: ABS

Question: AET 741-747

Topic: Government payments of accounts

Reference: Hansard page no. 19 February 2016

Senator: Ludwig, Joe & Wong, Penny

Question:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

741. What has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?

742. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?

743. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?

743. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?

745. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? f) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?

746. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since Estimates, 2014?

747. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer:

740. The average time period to pay accounts was 4 days.

742. to 745.

Payment of Accounts

14 September 2015 to 29 February 2016

Days Paid	No. of Transactions	Percentage
< 30 days	28,511	97.9%
30 - < 60 days	382	1.3%
60 - < 90 days	115	0.4%
90 - < 120 days	57	0.2%
120 days plus	44	0.2%
	29,109	100.0%

746. The ABS is paying interest on overdue amounts. Since Estimates 2014, interest paid on overdue amounts totalled \$3,873.24.

747. Payment is in accordance with the general interest charge rate determined under section 8AAD of the Taxation Administration Act 1953 on the day that payment is due. Details of the General Interest Charge rate are available from the Australian Taxation Office.