

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

4 – 6 June 2013

Question: BET 595-598

Topic: Freedom of Information

Written: 17 June 2013

Senator BUSHBY asked:

595. Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
596. What is the total cost to the department/agency to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
597. How many FOI requests has the department/agency received for this financial year to date?
- a. How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted?
598. Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests?
- a. If so, how many and why?
- b. Do any of these requests remain outstanding?
- l. If so, how many and why?

Answer:

595. Yes. The ABS has been liaising with the Treasury to improve current procedures.
596. 79.5 staff days. Please note: the ABS can only provide an estimate of staff days, not actual costs.
597. 17 FOI requests were received. In addition, the ABS received 5 consultation requests which accounted for 4.5 of the 79.5 processing staff days.
- a. Access in full: 4
Access in part: 4
Access denied: 6
Note: 1 request was withdrawn and 2 requests were transferred to other agencies.
598. No.
- a. N/A.
- b. N/A.