

## Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

#### Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000333

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

#### Question

##### Government payment of accounts

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

1. What has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?
2. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?
3. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?
4. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?
5. 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?
6. 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?
7. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

#### Answer

The average time period the department takes to pay its accounts is 17 days. Below is the number of payments paid and percentages for the appropriate time periods.

Time Period	Number	Percentage
Under 30 Days	3,863	89%
30 to 60 days	384	9%
60 to 90 days	49	1%
90 to 120 days	13	0%
Greater than 120 days	11	0%

<sup>1</sup> The table includes transactions incurred by the Shared Services Centre on behalf of the Department of Employment and the Department of Education and Training.

The department has not made any interest payments between 14 September 2015 and 31 January 2016.