Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Agency - Fair Work Commission

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000723

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

FWC - Freedom of Information - stats

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

- 1. How many FOI requests were received to date.
- 2. How many of those requests were finalised within the regular timeframes provided under the FOI Act?
- 3. How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AA of the FOI Act?
- 4. How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AB of the FOI Act?
- 5. How many of those requests were finalised out of time?

Answer

- 1. Between 14 September 2015 and 31 January 2016, the Fair Work Commission (Commission) received 32 requests under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (FOI Act).
- 2. Of these 32 requests, 16 were finalised within regular timeframes provided under the FOI Act (one of which was within an extension of time granted by the Information Commissioner under section 15AC of the FOI Act). In addition, two applications were transferred to other agencies and four applications were withdrawn or were deemed to be withdrawn. Two requests have not yet been finalised however the regular statutory timeframe for processing for these requests has not yet expired.
- 3. Of these 32 requests, an extension of time was granted under s 15AA of the FOI Act in respect of 7 requests.
- 4. No extensions of time were granted under s 15AB of the FOI Act.
- 5. Of these 32 requests, one application was finalised out of time.