

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Agency - Fair Work Ombudsman

Department of Employment Question No. EM1149_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

FWO - Freedom of Information - Consultations with other Departments, Agencies and the Minister

The following questions relate to requests made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (the Act):

1. Other than for the purpose of discussing a transfer under section 16 of the Act, does the Department consult or inform other Departments or Agencies when it receives Freedom of Information requests? 2. If so, for each instance provide a table setting out the following information: a. The Department or Agency which was consulted; b. The document; c. The purpose of the consultation; d. Whether an extension of time was sought from the applicant to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension; e. Whether an extension of time was sought from the Information Commissioner to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension 3. Other than for the purposes of discussing a transfer under section 16 of the Act, has the Department consulted or informed the Minister's office about Freedom of Information requests it has received? 4. If yes, provide a table setting out the following information: a. The requests with respect to which the Minister or Ministerial office was consulted; b. The Minister or Ministerial office which was consulted; c. The purpose of the consultation; d. Whether an extension of time was sought from the applicant to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension; e. Whether an extension of time was sought from the Information Commissioner to allow time for the consultation, including whether it was granted and the length of the extension f. Whether any briefings (including formal briefs, email briefings and verbal briefings) were provided to the Minister's office

Answer

1. The Fair Work Ombudsman consults with other departments and agencies in circumstances where a request for documents within the scope of a freedom of information (FOI) request impacts or involves another department or agency.

2. Consultation table

Department consulted	Document	Purpose of consultation	Was extension of time sought from applicant?	Was extension of time sought from the Information Commissioner?
Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP)	457 visa monitoring report	To canvass any objections DIBP may have about release of the document	No	No

3. No.

4. Not applicable.