

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Additional Estimates 23-27 February 2015**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** FOI – requests for extensions

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Penny Wong

**Question reference number:** 190

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 10 April 2015

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

How many FOI requests has (a) the Department and (b) the Office of the Prime Minister received since 18 September 2013? Of these, how many extensions of time in relation to FOI processing have been sought from the Australian Information Commissioner since 18 September 2013 by (a) the Department and (b) the Office of the Prime Minister? How many have been granted?

**Answer:**

In the period 18 September 2013 to 28 February 2015:

- the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet received 329 FOI requests; and
- the Prime Minister received 104 FOI requests.

The Department would need to review the records for all 433 requests covered by the period to identify the number of extensions of time sought from, and granted by, the Australian Information Commissioner. This would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.