

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee:
Answers to written Questions on Notice Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013–14
Parliamentary Departments Portfolio
November 2013

Department: Parliamentary Budget Office

Topic: Government payments of accounts

Senator: Senator Ludwig

Question reference number: 91

Type of question: Written

Question

- 1. From 7 September 2013 to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)?**
- 2. If not, why not? Provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached).**
- 3. 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 for the current financial year and the previous financial year?**
- 4. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?**

Answer

1. From 7 September to 25 November 2013, four invoices were paid by the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) later than 30 days.
2. The four late invoices, totalling \$13,917.34, were due to an administrative oversight and were paid between 14 and 25 days late. These four invoices represent eight per cent of the total number of invoices (50) and one per cent of the total dollar value (\$1,412,812.31) of all PBO invoices paid during the period. PBO officials have been reminded of the Government policy to pay accounts within 30 days and the process is being reviewed.
3. No interest has been charged for invoices paid outside the 30 day period in 2012–13 and 2013–14.
4. Not applicable.