

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013-2014**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Australian National Audit Office

**Outcome/Program:**

**Topic:** Payment of Small Business Accounts

**Senator:** Wong

**Question reference number:** 204

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 17 January 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

1) Since 18 September 2013 what percentage of account payments to small business have been made (a) within 30 days (b) within 31-60 days and (c) beyond 60 days? Has any interest for late payment been paid to a small business in this period? If so, please provide details.

**Answer:**

Q1. The ANAO complies with Government policy in respect of supplier payment terms. Late payment can arise due to disputed invoices or clarification of goods or services rendered prior to making payment. Payments were made within standard terms of 30 days in all but two of the 644 instances for the period 7 September 2013 to 30 November 2013. The two invoices that were paid later than 30 days required further clarification and confirmation of charges before they were paid. There was no interest paid on the overdue amounts.