

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

Program: Portfolio

Question No. AE16/137

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 9 February 2016:

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?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- 1, 2 & 5. Under section 93 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* Australian Government ministers and most agencies are required to submit statistical data about the freedom of information requests that they received during the year. That statistical data is published for each financial year on the website of the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner. To attempt to provide these statistics for the whole portfolio for a different time period would involve unreasonable diversion of the resources of the Attorney-General's Department and portfolio agencies.
- 3.& 4. This information is not reported under the Freedom of Information Act and to provide it would be an unreasonable diversion of the resources of the Attorney-General's Department and portfolio agencies.