

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

Program: 1.1

Question No. SBE15/063

Senator Bilyk asked the following question at the hearing on 20 October 2015:

1. Has the Department provided the Attorney-General, the Minister for Justice or the Assistant Minister for Multicultural Affairs any advice in relation to the FOI implications of the use of apps such as wickr and slack for the transmission of official communications or the creation and storage of official documents?
If so-
 - a. on what date(s) was advice provided?
 - b. In what form was that advice provided?
 - c. Can a copy of any written advice please be provided?
2. Has the Department provided the Attorney-General, the Minister for Justice or the Assistant Minister for Multicultural Affairs any advice in relation to the FOI implications of the use of non-government email accounts to transmit official documents?
If so-
 - a. on what date(s) was advice provided?
 - b. In what form was that advice provided?
 - c. Can a copy of any written advice please be provided?
3. Has the Department provided the Attorney-General, the Minister for Justice or the Assistant Minister for Multicultural Affairs any advice in relation to the FOI implications of the use of private servers to transmit and store official documents?
If so-
 - a. on what date(s) was advice provided?
 - b. In what form was that advice provided?
 - c. Can a copy of any written advice please be provided?

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

- 1: (a) 19 October 2015
(b) Written
(c) No. However, on 19 October 2015 the Attorney-General, at the Finance and Public Administration Estimates Committee hearing, tabled advice provided to the Prime Minister in relation to the issue.
- 2-3: See response to question 1.