

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

10 – 11 February 2010

Question: aet 142

Topic: Freedom of Information (ASIC)

Hansard Page: Written

Senator EGGLESTON asked:

1. Has the agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
2. How many FOI requests has the agency received?
3. How many have been granted or denied?
4. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?

**timeframe for question – 26 November 2007 to present*

Answer:

1. With respect to external advice, ASIC does receive advice, but infrequently. ASIC seeks the advice from external counsel from time to time, when warranted by the complexity of a request or the circumstances in which the request is made.

We note that ASIC also seeks advice internally from lawyers that are experienced in FOI applications.

2. Requests received during the period 26 November 2007 to 15 March 2010 are 167.
3.
Access granted in full: 34.
Access granted in part: 36.
Access denied: 37.

These figures are based on requests that were concluded during the period 26 November 2007 to 15 March 2010. These figures do not total to 167 as some requests were withdrawn or are still ongoing because further information is being sought or ASIC is awaiting submissions from third parties.

4. No conclusive certificates have been issued.