

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

1 June – 3 June 2010

Question: BET 202

Topic: Government Payments of Accounts (PC)

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Barnett asked:

1. Has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (ie. within 30 days)? If not, why not, and 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.)
2. 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?
3. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer:

Productivity Commission

1. The Commission's procedures are consistent with the government policy of paying accounts within 30 days of the receipt of a correctly rendered invoice. Comprehensive information is not available from the Commission's Financial Management Information System regarding timeframes of payment.
2. There have been no claims for payment of interest on overdue amounts.
3. Not applicable.