

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009-10**

Outcome/Agency *Corporate and Network*

DEEWR Question No. EW804_10

Question

Has the Department received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?

Answer

On 30 April 2009, the then Cabinet Secretary, Senator the Hon. John Faulkner, wrote to departmental secretaries and agency heads. The letter is publicly available from the Cabinet Secretary's website:

http://www.smos.gov.au/media/2009/docs/Letter_to_Secretaries_FOI.rtf.

Question

How many FOI Requests has the Department received? How many have been granted or denied? How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?

Answer

1 July 2008 – 30 June 2009	
<i>Requests being processed as at 1 July 2008</i>	19
Total requests received	215
Decisions made	
Full release	97
Partial release	42
Refused	10
Alternative outcomes	
Withdrawn	41
Transferred	2
Conclusive certificates	0
<i>Requests being processed as at 30 June 2009</i>	42
1 July 2009 to 30 September 2009	
<i>Requests being processed as at 1 July 2009</i>	42
Received	72
Decisions Made	
Full release	42
Partial release	16
Refused	5
Alternative Outcomes	
Withdrawn	18
Transferred	0
Conclusive certificates	0
<i>Requests being processed as at 30 September 2009</i>	33