

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012**

Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Department/Agency:** Australian National Audit Office  
**Outcome/Program:**  
**Topic:** Freedom of Information

**Senator:** Ryan  
**Question reference number:** 91  
**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 30 March 2012

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

1. Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
2. What was the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for 2009-10 and 2010-11?
3. What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
4. How many FOI requests did the Department receive for the financial year 2009-10 and 2010-11? For each financial year, how many requests were denied and how many were granted? Did the department fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?
5. How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?
6. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this financial year to date?

**Answer:**

1. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet provided FOI Guidance Notes to all departments on 28 July 2011 - [http://www.dPMC.gov.au/foi/guidance\\_notes.cfm](http://www.dPMC.gov.au/foi/guidance_notes.cfm). The ANAO is not subject to the FOI legislation.
2. Nil

3. Nil
4. The ANAO has not received any formal requests. While the ANAO is exempt from the FOI legislation, we do on occasion receive ad hoc FOI requests. However, these are not considered formal FOI requests as the ANAO is not required to respond under FOI legislation.
5. Nil
6. Nil; conclusive certificates were abolished on 7 October 2009.