

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

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Outcome/Program: 1.1 – Prime Minister and Cabinet
Topic: Government Payment of Accounts

Senator: Fifield

Question reference number: 143

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 8 July 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- 1. Has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. 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:

- 1. For the period 1 July 2010 to 14 June 2011 the Department paid 19,779 invoices. Six per cent of these accounts were paid after 30 days.**
- 2. For the current financial year and the previous financial year no interest was charged.**
- 3. Not applicable.**