

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

Attorney-General's Portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

Outcome/Program:

Topic: OAIC budget for consultative processes

Senator: Senator Rhiannon

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Question:

Has the OAIC allocated a budget for consultative processes with civil society organisations (both on privacy and FOI)?

What consultations have taken place in the last year?

Answer:

The OAIC budget has no specific allocation for consultation with civil society organisations, but consultation with various groups occurs regularly.

The OAIC has held the following consultation meetings in the past year:

- A meeting with privacy and consumer advocates in November 2010
- Three meetings of the Privacy Advisory Committee
- Two roundtable discussions of privacy issues associated with the implementation of body scanning technology in Australian International Airports in September 2010 and September 2011.

The OAIC has released the following documents for public consultation in the last year:

- Information Policy Issues Paper 1 (November 2010)
- Draft Information Publication Scheme agency plan (March 2011)
- FOI Disclosure Logs Discussion Paper (March 2011).

The OAIC has carried out the following reviews that included public consultation processes in the last year:

- Review of Credit Provider Determinations (May 2011)
- Review of the Tax File Number Guidelines (August 2011)
- Review of charges under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (October 2011).

The OAIC has also carried out public consultation regarding the following applications for public interest determinations in the last year:

- Application for Public Interest Determination – Collection and use of contact details of genetic relatives to enable use or disclosure of genetic information – December 2010
- Application for a Public Interest Determination – Collection of Family, Social and Medical Histories – October 2011
- Application for Public Interest Determination from UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide – October 2011