

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-13

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian National Audit Office

Outcome/Program:

Topic: Payment of Accounts 2011-12

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: 110

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. For 2011-12, did the department/agency pay its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?
 - a) If not, why not? Provide details, including 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)
 - b) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is/was 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?
 - c) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?
 - d) Have all accounts from 2011-12 been paid? If no, why not?

Answer:

1. The ANAO complies with Government policy in respect of supplier payment terms. Late payment can arise due to disputed invoices or clarification of goods or services rendered prior to making payment.
 - a) Payments were made later than standard terms on 76 instances out of 3,893 invoices for the 2011-12 financial year. Of the 76 invoices noted, 85% were paid within 60 days of being received.
 - b) No interest was paid on overdue amounts in the current or previous financial year.
 - c) Refer response to Question 1(b).
 - d) Yes