

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 1

Question No. 100

Senator Boyce asked the following question at the hearing on 14 February 2012:

1. The Commonwealth Government developed an issues paper, *A Commonwealth Statutory Cause of Action for Serious Invasion of Privacy*, to inform its response to the Australian Law Reform Commission's recommendations to introduce a statutory cause of action for serious invasions of privacy (this was also post the News of the World scandal)
 - (a) What is the status of the Government's proposed Statutory Cause of Action for Serious Invasion of Privacy?
 - (b) How many submissions were made?
 - (c) Have you made contact with any of the submitters to have them elaborate on their view?
 - (d) When will a report be presented to Parliament?
2. Would it be fair to say that most submissions were against a statutory tort for invasion of privacy?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1(a) The Government is considering the submissions made in response to the issues paper *A Commonwealth Statutory Cause of Action for Serious Invasion of Privacy*.

1(b) 79.

1(c) A number of submitters have provided further information to the Attorney-General's Department.

1(d) Consistent with common practice, the Government does not intend to report to Parliament on the outcome of its consultation process.

2. No.