

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

Portfolio

Question No. 105

Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 16 October 2012:

Shredders

- 1) Did the department/agencies purchase any shredders in 2011-12? If yes, (a) provide details of how many shredders were purchased, (b) the cost of each shredder, (c) why each new shredder was needed and (d) the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.
- 2) Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders since Budget Estimates 2011-12 (May 2012)? If yes, (a) provide details of how many shredders were purchased, (b) the cost of each shredder, (c) why each new shredder was needed and (d) the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.

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

Attorney-General's Department

- 1)
 - a) Four
 - b) \$2,000 each including GST
 - c) This equipment was purchased to meet business requirements
 - d) Shredders are used for the destruction of classified documents in accordance with the *Australian Government Protective Security Policy Framework*.
- 2) No.

Australian Crime Commission

- 1) Yes
 - a) Four
 - b) One bulk volume shredder @ \$8,840, Three shredders @ \$2,980, excluding GST.
 - c) This equipment was purchased to meet business requirements for secure destruction of classified material.
 - d) Shredders are used for the destruction of classified documents in accordance with the *Australian Government Protective Security Policy Framework*.

2)

- a) Seven.
- b) Two shredders @ \$2,980, One shredder @ \$2,347, Four shredders @ \$2,040, excluding GST.
- c) This equipment was purchased to meet business requirements across the regional sites for secure destruction of classified material.
- d) Shredders are used for the destruction of classified documents in accordance with the *Australian Government Protective Security Policy Framework*.

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

- 1) Yes, in 2011-12 one hundred and eighteen (118) units were purchased. Further details in relation to the purchase of these shredders has been provided in response to question on notice number 164 from Budget Estimates in May 2012, and questions on notice number 18 from Supplementary Budget Estimates October 2012.
- 2) Since May 2012 the agency has not purchased any additional shredders.

Australian Federal Police

1. Yes

- a) 32
- b) Each shredder had a unique purchase price; however, the average cost of the shredders purchased for 2011-12 was \$4193.00 each.
- c) Shredders were purchased to enable the appropriate destruction of classified documents in accordance with Australian Government security standards, as stipulated by the Australian Government Security Construction and Equipment Committee (SCEC) in its Security Equipment Catalogue, and in accordance with the Government's *Protective Security Policy Framework*.
- d) Shredders are used to destroy classified material that does not need retention to meet business, archival or broader relevant needs, and so reduce unnecessary storage requirements and the potential compromise risk associated with retention of unnecessary copies of such material.

2. Yes

- a) 24
- b) Each shredder had a unique purchase price, however, the average cost of the shredders purchased since 1 May 2012 was \$4,627.00 each.

- c) Shredders were purchased to enable the appropriate destruction of classified documents in accordance with Australian Government security standards, as stipulated by the Australian Government Security Construction and Equipment Committee (SCEC) in its Security Equipment Catalogue, and in accordance with the Government's *Protective Security Policy Framework*.
- d) Shredders are used to destroy classified material that does not need retention to meet business, archival or broader relevant needs, and so reduce unnecessary storage requirements and the potential compromise risk associated with retention of unnecessary copies of such material.

Australian Government Solicitor

Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) is a government business enterprise operating on a commercial and competitive basis in providing legal and related services to government and its agencies. AGS does not receive any Budget or other appropriations and its employees are engaged outside of the *Public Service Act 1999*. The question is therefore not applicable to AGS.

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation

1. Yes

- a) Four
- b) \$6,200 each
- c) This equipment was purchased to meet business requirements
- d) Shredders are used for the destruction of classified documents in accordance with the *Protective Security Policy Framework*.

2. No

The following agencies returned a nil response to (1) and (2):

- Australian Human Rights Commission
- Australian Institute of Criminology
- Australian Law Reform Commission
- CrimTrac
- Family Court of Australia
- Federal Court of Australia
- Federal Magistrates Court of Australia
- Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
- Office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions

- National Native Title Tribunal

Please note: From 1 July 2012 the National Native Title Tribunal is no longer a Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 Agency, and is funded to carry out its functions as a sub-program of the Federal Court of Australia's appropriation.

For question two, please refer to the Federal Court's response