

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Question No. 131

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 18 November 2013:

- a) From 7 September 2013 to date, has the department paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)?
- b) 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)
- c) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
- d) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

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

- a) The AFP has not paid all of its contractors/consultants within thirty days.
- b) The statistical breakdown of the invoices paid for 1 September to 30 November 2013 is as follows

1 Sep - 30 Nov 2013	0-30 Days	31-44 Days	45-60 Days	> 60 Days	Grand Total
Number of Invoices	277	15	5	5	302
% of Invoices by Number	91.72%	4.97%	1.66%	1.66%	100.00%
Value of Invoices	\$8,687,146	\$256,186	\$22,800	\$58,310	\$9,024,442
% of Invoices by Value	96.26%	2.84%	0.25%	0.65%	100.00%

- c) The total late interest relating to last financial year was \$320.24. The AFP paid this interest in the current financial year. (Note this is consistent with the Procurement On-Time Payment Policy Survey reported to Minister Finance and Small Business)

The late interest payable for this financial year has not been calculated at this point in time.

- d) The rate of interest used is the General Interest Charge Rate daily rate. The rate is published by the Australian Taxation Office and is expressed as a decimal rate per day.

