

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2013 - 2014, 26 February 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000334

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Freedom of Information

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Ludwig Joe

Question:

Since 7 September 2013, how many Freedom of Information requests have been shown or alerted to the Minister or their office?

- a) List those notified requests.
- b) How many instances were each of these requests brought to the office or the Minister's attention?
- c) How many of these items resulted in a separate formal brief being provided to the Minister?
- d) How many of these items resulted in a separate informal briefing (including by email) being provided to the Minister?
- e) How many requests have resulted in multiple formal briefs being provided to the Minister or their office?
- f) How many requests have resulted in multiple informal briefs (including by email) being provided to the Minister or their office?

Answer:

a) to f)

The Department of Health notifies the Minister's office when each new request is received.

Between 7 September 2013 and 23 March 2014 the department received 171 Freedom of Information (FOI) requests. During this period there were no formal written briefings provided to the Minister specifically in relation to any FOI requests. It is not possible for the Department to accurately ascertain which, if any, of the received requests were subject to informal briefings to the Minister's office.