

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programs

Question No: 169

Topic: Freedom of Information

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

- 1) What resources does the department commit to its Freedom of Information team?
- 2) List the staffing resources by APS level assigned solely to Freedom of Information requests.
- 3) List the staffing resources by APS level assigned indirectly to Freedom of Information requests.

Answer:

- 1) The Department commits the following resources to processing Freedom of Information (FOI) requests:
 - one full time Principal Legal Officer at the EL2 level who is the FOI Coordinator;
 - one full time Legal Officer at APS6 level;
 - one full time APS6 Officer;
 - two full time APS5 Officers; and
 - one part time APS 5 Officer.
- 2) There is one full time APS6 Officer, one full time APS5 Officer and one part time APS5 Officer assigned solely to Freedom of Information requests.
- 3) In addition to the staff listed in part two of this answer, the full time EL2 FOI Coordinator, the full time Legal Officer at APS6 level and one of the full time APS5 Officers dedicate approximately fifty per cent of their time to the processing of FOI requests. During peak periods, the FOI Team can also call on resources within the Public Law Branch.