

## Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

### ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 11 FEBRUARY 2016 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### Department of Human Services

**Topic:** Freedom of Information - statistics

**Question reference number:** HS 112

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 4 April 2016

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

- a) How many FOI requests were received to date?
- b) How many of those requests were finalised within the regular timeframes provided under the FOI Act?
- c) How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AA of the FOI Act?
- d) How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AB of the FOI Act?
- e) How many of those requests were finalised out of time?

**Answer:**

- a) For the period 14 September 2015 to 25 February 2016, the department received 2,001 FOI requests.
- b) Of those FOI requests, 1,689 matters were finalised within the statutory timeframes. As noted in item (e) below, one matter was not finalised within the statutory timeframe. 311 matters are currently being processed and are still within the statutory timeframe.
- c) It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources for the department to review all FOI requests to determine how many were granted an extension of time under s 15AA of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act).
- d) It would be an unreasonable diversion of resources for the department to review all FOI requests to determine how many were granted an extension of time under s 15AB of the FOI Act.
- e) One.