

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 23-24 OCTOBER 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Freedom of Information - Requests

Question reference number: HS 113

Senator: Ludwig

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 12 December 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) How many FOI requests were received from 7 September 2013 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) From 7 September 2013 to 31 October 2014, the department received 5,205 valid FOI requests.
- b) 5,014.
- 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 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) 191.