

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Budget Estimates Hearings May 2014
Communications Portfolio
Department of Communications

Question No: 596

Program No. Legal

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: FOI Requests

Senator Ludwig asked:

Since 7 September 2013:

1. How many requests for documents under the FOI Act have been received?
2. Of these, how many documents have been determined to be deliberative documents?
3. Of those assessed as deliberative documents:
 - a. For how many has access to the document been refused on the basis that it would be contrary to the public interest?
 - b. For how many has a redacted document been provided?

Answer:

1. 64 requests were received under the Freedom of Information Act during 2013-14.
2. It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's resources to answer this question at a document level. Exemptions claimed at a request level are recorded in the quarterly FOI statistical return provided to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (the OAIC).
3. It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's resources to answer this question at a document level.