

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2014-2015

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM0216\_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

FOI requests

Since September 7, 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. The Department of Employment is required to report quarterly and annual statistics under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC). To date, the department has compiled and reported statistics to OAIC for the period 18 September 2013 to 31 March 2014 (quarter 1, quarter 2 and quarter 3).

The number of FOI requests received in each quarter is set out below.

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter (18 September 2013 – 30 September 2013)**

<b>18/09/2013 to 30/09/2013</b>	<b>Number</b>
* On hand at 18 September 2013	19
Further requests received	5

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (1 October 2013 – 31 December 2013)**

<b>01/10/2013 to 31/12/2013</b>	<b>Number</b>
Further requests received	47

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter (1 January 2014 – 31 March 2014)**

<b>01/01/2014 to 31/03/2014</b>	<b>Number</b>
Further requests received	39

\* Matters on hand at 18 September 2013 were deemed to have been made to the department in accordance with subsection 4(6) of the FOI Act when the former Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations was abolished,

except for two matters which were deemed to be made to the Department of Social Services and then transferred to that department.

2. Two

3. a) Two.  
b) None.