

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Additional Estimates Hearing—February 2016

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: Government payments of accounts

Question: 194

Written: Senator Ludwig

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 1 April 2016

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

1. What has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?
2. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?
3. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?
4. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?
5. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? f) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?
6. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since Estimates, 2014?
7. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer

1. From 14 September 2015 to 22 February 2016, the department paid its accounts, on average, in 17.5 days.
2. From 0 to 30 days: 2526 (95.3 per cent).
3. From 31 to 60 days: 105 (4.0 per cent).
4. From 61 to 90 days: 18 (0.7 per cent).
5. From 91 to 120 days: 1 (0 per cent).
6. Over 120 days: Nil (0 per cent).
7. For accounts not paid within 30 days, interest is being paid on overdue amounts, unless they are exempt under the “*Supplier Pay On-Time or Pay Interest Policy*”. The amount paid from 1 October 2014 to 22 February 2016 was \$1,713.54.
8. Interest is payable at the daily general interest charge rate, determined under section 8AAD of the Taxation Administration Act 1953, on the day the payment was due.