

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

Outcome/Program: Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

Topic: Reporting obligation convictions

Senator: Senator Cory Bernardi

Question reference number: 280

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. Can you outline how many convictions have been secured against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations that have failed to meet their reporting obligations for 2012-2013?
2. How does this compare to the previous financial year?

Answer:

1. The statutory deadline for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations to lodge a general report for the 2012-13 financial year with the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (the Registrar) was 31 December 2013.
In May 2014 the Registrar referred a total of 28 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions for failing to lodge their 2012-13 general reports.
To date no matters have been before the courts.
2. The statutory deadline for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporations to lodge a general report for the 2011-12 financial year with the Registrar was 31 December 2012.
A total of 44 corporations were referred by the Registrar to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions for failing to lodge their 2011-12 reports.
To date, 25 convictions have been obtained and the courts have imposed fines totalling \$56,750. Four matters are still before the court.