

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 27 February 2017**

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

**(AE17/137) - FOI - Outcomes - Internal Product (DIBP)**

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

Please provide a breakdown of how many FOI requests have been released in full, in part or denied and a breakdown of the categories of reasons for the denial since October 2013.

*Answer:*

### **a) FOI Access Request Outcomes: 1 October 2013 to 28 February 2017**

<b>Decision / Outcome</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Number</b>
Released in full	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• all requested documents were located; and</li><li>• no exemptions were applied</li></ul>	34,277
Released in part	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• some requested documents did not exist or could not be located; and</li><li>• those documents that were located were released in full</li></ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• all requested documents were located; and</li><li>• some or parts of the documents were exempted (multiple exemption reasons possible)</li></ul>	20,201
Refused or exempt in full	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• no requested documents existed or could be located</li></ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• all or some of the requested documents were located but they were exempted in full (multiple exemption reasons possible)</li></ul>	2,998
Other (invalid, withdrawn and requests transferred to other agencies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• includes 'deemed withdrawals' where an applicant fails to respond to an invitation to reduce the scope of an impractical request or to a charges notice</li></ul>	2,341
<b>Total</b>		<b>59,817*</b>

*\* does not include 7,781 outcomes on requests for amendment or annotation of personal records under the FOI Act. Such outcomes have not been included in the table as they do not involve the release or exemption of documents.*

**b) FOI Decision Reasons (refusals and exemptions):  
1 October 2013 to 28 February 2017**

<b>FOI Act reference</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Number</b>
Section 24	Practical refusal	238
Section 24A(b)(i)	Documents cannot be found	5,087
Section 24A(b)(ii)	Documents do not exist	4,273
Section 33(a)(i)	Documents affecting national security	745
Section 33(a)(ii)	Documents affecting defence	7
Section 33(a)(iii)	Documents affecting international relations	387
Section 33(b)	Information communicated in confidence from a foreign government	185
Section 34	Cabinet documents	6
Section 37(1)(a)	Prejudice the conduct of an investigation	215
Section 37(1)(b)	Disclosure of a confidential source	793
Section 37(1)(c)	Danger to life or safety	6
Section 37(2)(a)	Prejudice a fair trial or impartial adjudication	20
Section 37(2)(b)	Prejudice law enforcement methods and procedures	1,824
Section 37(2)(c)	Protection of public safety	7
Section 38	Secrecy provisions	309
Section 42(1)	Legal professional privilege	376
Section 45(1)	Documents containing material obtained in confidence	478
Section 46	Contempt of parliament or court	19
Section 47	Trade secrets or business information of value	27
Section 47B	Commonwealth-State relations	98
Section 47C	Deliberative process	651
Section 47D	Financial/Property interests of the Commonwealth	12
Section 47E(a)	Prejudice the conduct of tests, examinations or audits	59
Section 47E(b)	Prejudice the attainment of the objects of tests, examinations or audits	18
Section 47E(c)	Substantial adverse effect on the management or assessment of personnel	28
Section 47E(d)	Substantial adverse effect on the operations of an agency	2,936
Section 47F(1)	Personal privacy	10,074
Section 47G	Unreasonable adverse impact on business affairs	335
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>29,213*</b>

*\* this total does not match the total number of decisions released in part and refused or exempt in full (i.e. 20,201 +2,998= 23,199), for the same period, as provided in the table at part a. This is because some of those requests had multiple exemption reasons applied.*