

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS**  
**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017**

**Office of the Australian Information Commissioner**

**Question No. BE17-204**

**Senator Watt, Murray asked the following question on 18 August 2017:**

Senator WATT: In the past 12 months, how many complaints has your organisation received about government agencies' mishandling of personal information?

Ms Falk: Could I have the question again, please?

Senator WATT: Over the last 12 months, how many complaints has your office received about government agencies' mishandling of personal information?

Mr Pilgrim: We don't have the figures to hand, broken down by sector. As you will appreciate, we cover the majority of the private sector as well as the government sector. But we can certainly pull those out for you and provide them.

Senator WATT: Sure. They're not reported publicly already?

Mr Pilgrim: We collect them and publish them as part of our annual reporting process.

Senator WATT: Feel free to direct us if they are already on there on the public record.

Otherwise, perhaps you could—

Mr Pilgrim: We're happy to provide them.

**The response to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:**

From 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, the OAIC received 253 privacy complaints, made under s 36 of the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth), about Australian Government agencies.

From 1 July 2017 to 31 August 2017, the OAIC has received 39 privacy complaints about Australian Government agencies.