

Senate Standing Committee on the Environment, Communications and the Arts

Answers To Estimates Questions On Notice

Additional Estimates Hearing February 2009

Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy portfolio

Question No: 41

Hansard Ref: Written

Topic: Freedom of Information

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. Has the department received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information requests?
2. How many FOI requests has the Department received?
3. How many have been granted or denied?
4. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?

Answer:

1. No.
2. and 3. Information about FOI requests received by the Department since the Supplementary Estimate hearings on 21 October 2008 to 23 February 2009, together with details about the status of requests as at 23 February 2009, is set out below.

Requests received by the Department from 21 October 2008 to 23 February 2009

Date Received	Decision on Access (as at 23 February 2009)
7/11/08	Information provided to applicant outside FOI
17/11/08	Refused – s.24A – documents not found or do not exist
3/12/08	Information provided to applicant outside FOI
9/12/08	Still being processed
15/12/08	Still being processed
15/12/08	Access granted in part
4/2/09	Still being processed

4. The Department has not issued any conclusive certificates in relation to FOI requests.