

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates, 16 February 2006

Question: AT 64

Topic: *DPP*

Hansard Page: Written

Senator LUDWIG asked:

1. How many briefs have you forwarded to the DPP for 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05?
 - (a) How many briefs were returned without action, and how many were actioned?
2. For each year, what was the average time (as well as indicating the minimum and maximum time in each case) in which it took the DPP to:
 - (a) Bring charges against the accused party
 - (b) Formally bring the matter to a conclusion through either a verdict of guilty or not guilty, the entrance of a nolle prosequi or dropping the charges
 - (c) Return the brief for no further action
3. Did the department or agency forward any formal complaints to the DPP regarding the handling of the brief?
 - (a) If so, give details.
4. Did the department or agency forward any informal complaints to the DPP regarding the handling of the brief?
 - (a) If so, give details.

Answer:

- | | | |
|-----|---------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | 2001-02 | 23 |
| | 2002-03 | 79 |
| | 2003-04 | Nil |
| | 2004-05 | Nil |
| (a) | 2001-02 | 17 actioned
6 not actioned |
| | 2002-03 | 58 actioned
21 not actioned |
| | 2003-04 | Not applicable |
| | 2004-05 | Not applicable |

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2. The very detailed information sought in the honourable senator's question is not readily available in consolidated form and it would be a major task to collect and assemble it. I am not prepared to authorise the expenditure of time and money to do so.
3. Yes. One complaint was lodged about the length of time taken to move forward on a matter.
4. Yes. In one instance, concern was expressed that the DPP withdrew a matter following a series of adjournments.