

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

10 – 11 February 2010

Question: aet 20

Topic: Freedom of Information (Treasury)

Hansard Page: Written

Senators BARNETT & EGGLESTON asked:

1. Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI 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?

**timeframe for question – 26 November 2007 to present*

Answer:

1. The Treasury has received general legal advice from the Australian Government Solicitor in relation to specific FOI requests.

In accordance with the FOI Guidelines, Treasury also sought and received advice from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in relation to any Cabinet documents identified in relation to FOI requests.

2. Since 26 November 2007 and as at 4 March 2010 Treasury has received 137 requests.
3. Of the 137 requests received:

17	granted full access
57	granted access in part
23	withdrawn by the applicant
23	deemed withdrawn (no response received from applicant)
12	were refused (no documents existed)
4	transferred to another agency
1	deferred access.
4. No conclusive certificates have been issued.