

## Senate Standing Committee on Economics

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

19 – 20 October 2011

Question No: SBT 725 - 729

Topic: Freedom of Information

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bushy asked:

- 725. Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
- 726. How many FOI requests has the Department received for the year 2010-11?
  - a) How many have been granted or denied?
- 727. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for the year 2010-11?
- 728. How many FOI requests has the Department received for this FYTD?
  - a) How many have been granted or denied?
- 729. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this FYTD?

Answer:

- 725. The Office of the Australian Information Commission has issued guidelines under s 93A of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*. On 24 June 2011, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet provided FOI Guidance Notes to all departments - [http://www.dpmc.gov.au/foi/guidance\\_notes.cfm](http://www.dpmc.gov.au/foi/guidance_notes.cfm).
- 726. Treasury received 159 requests in the year 2010-11. Fourteen requests were on hand as of 1 July 2010.
- 726a. The following action was taken on requests in 2010-11:
  - 12 granted access in full
  - 56 granted access in part
  - 29 access refused or no documents located
  - 4 transferred in whole
  - 43 withdrawn (either by applicant or time lapsed)
  - 29 current as at 30 June 2011
- 727. Nil, conclusive certificates were abolished on 7 Oct 2009.

728. Treasury received 61 requests for this FYTD (from 1 July 2011 to 20 October 2011).
- 728a. Of the 61 requests received, there were:
- 7 granted access in part
  - 4 refused (as one or more exemptions in the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* applied)
  - 19 withdrawn (either by applicant or time lapsed)
  - 7 no documents exist
  - 1 transferred to another Agency
  - 23 pending
729. Nil, conclusive certificates were abolished on 7 Oct 2009.