

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

**Cross Portfolio**

**Department of Employment Question No. EM0251\_14**

**Senator Ludwig provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Government payment of accounts**

a) From Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date, what has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others? b) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days? c) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days? d) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days? e) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? f) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days? g) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since 7 September 2013? h) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

**Answer**

The Department of Employment was created on 18 September 2013.

The department does not track individual average time period for payment of accounts. The department tracks for the time periods displayed below.

From November 2013 to February 2014 the Department of Employment<sup>1</sup> paid 95 per cent of suppliers within 30 days of receiving a correctly rendered invoice.

	<b>No. of claims</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Value of claims (\$,000)</b>	<b>%</b>
Paid in 30 days	5,445	95%	27,689	94%
Paid 31-44 days	177	3%	1,369	5%
Paid 45-60 days	34	0%	192	0%
Paid > 60 days	103	2%	359	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,759</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>29,609</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Corporate and the State Office Network provide services to the Department of Employment and the Department of Education. The value associated with these functions has been attributed to both departments.

For accounts not paid within 30 days, interest is payable upon receipt of a correctly rendered invoice from qualifying suppliers as prescribed in Finance Circular 2012/02. No claims for interest due to late payment have been received during the period 18 September 2013 to February 2014.

For accounts not paid within 60 days, interest is payable via a self-generated payment for qualifying suppliers as prescribed in Finance Circular 2012/02. No late payments during the period 18 September 2013 to February 2014 met the requirements of this Finance Circular.

Determination of any interest payable is in accordance with the requirements of Finance Circular 2012/02.