

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

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

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM0340_14

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Freedom of Information - Requests shown to MO

1) Since 7 September 2013, how many Freedom of Information requests been shown or alerted to the Minister or their office?

- a. List those notified request
- b. How many instances were each of this requests brought to the office or the Minister's attention?
- c. How many of these items resulted in a separate formal brief being provided to the Minister?
- d. How many of these items resulted in a separate informal briefing (including by email) being provided to the Minister?
- e. How many requests have resulted in multiple formal briefs being provided to the Minister or their office?
- f. How many requests have resulted in multiple informal briefs (including by email) being provided to the Minister or their office?

Answer

The Department of Employment provides regular reports to the Minister on the department's performance in handling FOI requests that relate to the Minister's portfolio, and keeps the Minister updated on relevant matters, as appropriate. This was a long standing practice in the former DEEWR.

It is normal practice for the department to provide additional information to the Minister's office once a decision has been taken to release sensitive information relating to his portfolio under FOI arrangements.

The department does not collect information on how often this has occurred.