

Question 15 Department of the Senate – Senator Ryan

- (a) Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?**

Not applicable. However, the FOI Commissioner has written to the heads of the parliamentary departments stating, that in his view (and contrary to long held opinion), the parliamentary departments are subject to the Freedom of Information Act 1982. The matter is being examined.

- (b) What was the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for 2009-10 and 2010-11?**

Not applicable

- (c) What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?**

Not applicable

- (d) How many FOI requests did the Department receive for the financial year 2009-10 and 2010-11? For each financial year, how many requests were denied and how many were granted? Did the department fail to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?**

For the financial year 2009-10 the Department received two requests and relevant information was provided within the required timeframe.

For the financial year 2010-2011, the Department received three requests and information was provided in response to one request.

- (e) How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?**

Nil

- (f) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this financial year to date?**

Not applicable