

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2011**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Prime Minister and Cabinet portfolio

**Topic:** Freedom of Information (FOI)

**Senator:** FIFIELD

**Question reference number:** PM134

**Type of Question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 8 July 2011

**Number of Pages:** 1

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?

**Answer:**

1. The Office has sought both general and specific advice from the Australian Government Solicitor in relation to FOI matters. The Office has also sought general advice on FOI matters from the Office of the Information Commissioner.
2. To date in the 2010-11 FY, three. For previous years see the relevant Annual Report.
3. To date in the 2010-11 FY, three requests were considered and decisions taken under the FOI Act to grant access to information that fell within the provisions of the Act. For previous years see the relevant Annual Report.
4. No conclusive certificates were issued.