

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARINGS**

**PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET PORTFOLIO**

**Department/Agency: Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government**

**Outcome: 1**

**Topic: FOI Requests**

**Senator: ABETZ**

**Question reference number: 73**

**Type of question: Written, Tuesday 19 October 2010**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010**

- a) Has the Department/agency received any advice from the Government or any other source on how to respond to FOI requests?
- b) How many FOI requests has the Department received?
- c) How many have been granted or denied?
- d) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?
- e) Has the Department/agency received any FOI requests for its Incoming Government Brief ('Red Book')? If yes, when and will it be released?
- f) Has the Department/agency received any FOI requests for its Incoming Government Brief ('Blue Book')? If yes, when and will it be released?

**Number of pages: 1**

**Answer:**

- a) The Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government has been provided with information on new Freedom of Information (FOI) legislation which came into effect on 1 November 2010.
- b) Nil
- c) Not applicable
- d) Not applicable
- e) – f) No. The department was established after the election and did not produce any incoming government briefs. Refer to answers to questions 53 and 54.