Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Freedom of Information

Senator: Ryan
Question reference number: F75
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 November 2012

Number of pages: 2

Question:

a) Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
b) What is the total cost to the department/agency to process FOI requests for 2011-12? How many FOI requests did the department/agency receive in 2011-12? 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?
c) What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
d) 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 and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?

Answer:

a) No.

b) This information is included in the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) report *2011-12 Freedom of information agency statistics*, which is available on the OAIC website at
    http://www.oaic.gov.au/publications/reports/foi_agency_statistics_11-12/2011-12_foi_statistics.pdf. The total cost to the Department to process FOI requests for 2011-12, as set out in the OAIC report, is an estimate only.

c) The information for this financial year has not been collated. An estimate of the total cost for 2012-13 will be made available by the OAIC on its website through its annual statistical reporting.

d) For the period 1 July to 30 September 2012, the department received 31 FOI requests. During this period 8 were released in full, 4 were released in part and 8 were refused. The remaining 11 requests are ongoing. All requests were finalised within the processing times outlined in the FOI Act.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Electoral Commission
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Freedom of Information

Senator: Ryan
Question reference number: F75
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 November 2012

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Question:

a) Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
b) What is the total cost to the department/agency to process FOI requests for 2011-12? How many FOI requests did the department/agency receive in 2011-12? 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?
c) What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
d) 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 and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?

Answer:

a) Yes. The AEC regularly receives general advice from the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner on dealing with FOI requests.

b) This information is included in the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) report *2011-12 Freedom of information agency statistics*, which is available on the OAIC website at
    http://www.oaic.gov.au/publications/reports/foi_agency_statistics_11-12/2011-12_foi_statistics.pdf.

    The total cost to the AEC to process FOI requests for 2011-12, as set out in the OAIC report, is an estimate only.

c) An estimate of the total cost for 2012-13 will be made available by the OAIC on its website through its annual statistical reporting.

d) For the period 1 July to 30 September 2012, the AEC has received three FOI requests. Two FOI requests were granted in full and one was granted with deletions. The AEC met all of the processing times outlined in the FOI Act. No FOI requests were outstanding at the end of September 2012.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
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Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: ComSuper
Outcome/Program:
Topic: Freedom of Information

Senator: Ryan
Question reference number: F75
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 November 2012

Number of pages: 2

Question:

   a) Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI
       requests?
   b) What is the total cost to the department/agency to process FOI requests for 2011-12?
       How many FOI requests did the department/agency receive in 2011-12? 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?
   c) What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year
       to date?
   d) 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 and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding?
       If so, how many and why?

Answer:

a) No.

b) This information is included in the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
    (OAIC) report 2011-12 Freedom of information agency statistics, which is available on
    the OAIC website at
    http://www.oaic.gov.au/publications/reports/foi_agency_statistics_11-12/2011-
    12_foi_statistics.pdf.
    The total costs to ComSuper to process FOI requests for 2011-12, as set out in the OAIC
    report, is an estimate only.

c) An estimate of the total cost for 2012-13 will be made available by the OAIC on its website through its annual statistical reporting.

d) For the period 1 July 2012 to 30 September 2012, 51 FOI requests were received. One request was denied, six requests were partially granted, 40 requests were granted in full, two requests were withdrawn or treated as withdrawn by the applicants and two requests were under consideration as at 30 September 2012. Due to the complexity of the relevant matters, three cases (since completed) took more than the prescribed time to finalise.

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SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: ComSuper
Outcome/Program:
Topic: Freedom of Information

Senator: Ryan
Question reference number: F75
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 November 2012

Number of pages: 1

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a) Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
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Answer:

a) No.

b) Nil.

c) Nil.

d) Two requests: one withdrawn; one current (within timeframe for responding).

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
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Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Future Fund Management Agency
Outcome/Program:
Topic: Freedom of Information

Senator: Ryan
Question reference number: F75
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 30 November 2012

Number of pages: 2

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a) Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests?
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c) What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date?
d) 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 and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?

Answer:

a) Yes. The Agency receives guidance from the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner and advice from external legal providers as required.

b) This information is included in the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) report *2011-12 Freedom of information agency statistics*, which is available on the OAIC website at:
http://www.oaic.gov.au/publications/reports/foi_agency_statistics_11-12/2011-12_foi_statistics.pdf. The total cost to the Department to process FOI requests for 2011-12, as set out in the OAIC report, is an estimate only.

c) The information for this financial year has not been collated. An estimate of the total cost for 2012-13 will be made available by the OAIC on its website through its annual statistical reporting.

d) For the period 1 July to 30 September 2012, the agency has received no FOI requests.