

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21-22 MAY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE12/0027) Program Internal Product: FOI Requests

Senator Furner (L&CA 29) asked:

How many FOI appeals were made to the Information Commissioner in the 2011-12 financial year and what costs were involved in responding to those particular appeals?

Answer:

For the 2011-12 financial year to 31 March 2012, the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner has advised that they have received 59 requests for Information Commissioner (IC) review of FOI decisions made by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

The costs involved in responding to those IC reviews by the department are not tracked. These costs are subsumed each year in the total costs identified for processing FOI requests by departments, as reported in the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* Annual Report.