SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS CLASSIFICATION BOARD

Question No. 17

Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 29 May 2013:

Senator HUMPHRIES: Can you provide, perhaps on notice, a breakdown of, let us say for last financial year as a comparison, how many video games were submitted and how many were put into which classifications, and for the first whatever months of this year—let us say the first three months of this year—how many in those same classifications were submitted and how many were allocated to which classification.

Ms O'Brien: Just to be clear: you want to know, of the games that we have classified under the new guidelines, what the decisions where for each of those games?

Senator HUMPHRIES: Yes, please. I want to see how the R 18+ classification is affecting the trend of classification. We can see what we did for all the video games submitted and compare it with those submitted since the 1 January this year as a comparative period.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Table A consists of the number of computer games classified during 2011-2012 according to their classification category. The total number for 2011-2012 is 827.

Table A

Computer games classified during 2011-2012	
Classification	Classification decisions
G (General)	395
PG (Parental Guidance)	229
M (Mature)	109
MA 15+ (Mature Accompanied)	91
RC (Refused Classification)	3
Total	827

Table B covers the five month period 1 January 2013 to 31 May 2013. It includes games classified in the R18+ (Restricted) category which is a category that commenced on 1 January 2013. Prior to that there was not an R 18+ category for computer games. The statistics in the other classification categories should not be compared given that Table B is not for the full 2012-13 financial year.

Table B

Computer games classified 1 January 2013 to 31 May 2013	
Classification	Classification decisions
G (General)	101
PG (Parental Guidance)	71
M (Mature)	42
MA 15+ (Mature Accompanied)	29
R18+ (Restricted)	17
RC (Refused Classification)	-
Total	260