

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0019) PROGRAM – Internal Product

Senator Cash (L&CA 44) asked:

Mr Bowles: For the 2011-12 year, we received 12,328. We would expect that to be roughly the same for 2012-13, but, as of 30 April, we have had 10,324. In 2012-13, we have done a fair bit of work in trying to improve our performance in FOI. Of what we would call complex and sensitive FOI requests, we have probably a bit over 300 requests per annum. The backlog of overdue cases in that particular cohort has reduced from about 100 to fewer than 25, as at 30 April. [...]

Senator CASH: What about of the 12,328 and the 10,324?

Mr Bowles: Generally speaking, they are not in the complex and sensitive space. I do not have that information here. They are generally the name issues and personal detail issues that people want out of the system and, generally speaking, they are relatively easy and we do not necessarily miss our indicators on them.

Senator CASH: Do you have any statistical information?

Mr Bowles: I do not, so I could take that on notice to see if we can do that.

Answer:

At 30 April 2013, the Department had a total of 878 on hand, of which 126 were overdue.