

The costs have been limited to salary and operations for the Coordinator's Office and is a total figure for Access and Privacy. It is difficult to estimate the overall cost to the Department, particularly when the real cost is time and effort diverted from other operational responsibilities of departmental units.

Please refer to Annex A for the complete statistical report.

READING ROOM

A reading room is available in the public access area of the Department's headquarters adjacent to the ATIP Office. Current departmental manuals are available for review by members of the public. During the year, a minimum number of individuals opt to visit the reading room to examine releasable material rather than pay the related photocopying fees.

FORMAL/INFORMAL INTERFACE

Since the Act is intended to complement, rather than replace, existing procedures for access to government information, informal requests can be addressed to the ATIP Office, as well as to bureaux within the Department, the Media Relations Office, the Library or to missions abroad.

Formal requests are processed only by the ATIP Office. The Departmental Coordinator for Access to Information and Privacy also devotes considerable time to consultation with the Media Relations Office and the program bureaux concerned to ensure that their replies to enquiries are consistent with the requirements of both Acts.

DESIGNATION ORDER

Attached as Annex B is the current list of officials, by title, who have been designated by the Secretary of State for External Affairs to exercise powers under the Act.

APPEALS TO FEDERAL COURT

There are no outstanding appeals to the Federal Court.