

**Senate Community Affairs References Committee**

Questions on notice  
Public hearing, 8 March 2017  
Parliament House, Canberra

**Department of Social Services**

Note: Transferred from DHS

No.	Broad topic	Question
37	Recovery Fee	Have you updated the guidelines around the recovery fee for OCI? <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If so, why have you updated them?</li><li>• What's different?</li></ul>

**Answer:**

Changes are frequently made to the Guide to Social Security Law to ensure it reflects current policy. Changes have been made to the Guide topic 6.7.1.45 *Ten per cent Recovery Fee on Debts from False or Non-declaration of Income from Personal Exertion* to reflect the introduction of the Employment Income Confirmation system (previously known as the Online Compliance Intervention), introduction of the interest charge on debts and recent enhancements to the Employment Income Confirmation system. This included amendments to the contact requirements and references to 'the decision maker' with the introduction of the automated system.

The current version of the Guide topic is available at <http://guides.dss.gov.au/guide-social-security-law/6/7/1/45>.

A historical version of the Guide dated February 2016 is available on the Australian Government Web Archive at <http://webarchive.nla.gov.au/gov/20160229070741/http://guides.dss.gov.au/guide-social-security-law>.