Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2015-16 Budget Estimates Hearings

Question No: SQ15-000662

Topic: Defined Benefit Scheme

Hansard page: CA103, 4 June 2015

Outcome Number: 1.6 Income Support for Seniors

Senator Moore, Claire asked:

Do we know exactly how many defined benefit schemes there are? Are they taking new entrants and do we know how many people there are in each of the schemes?

Answer:

The Department does not have information on the total number of defined benefit schemes in Australia and their characteristics.

Under the Social Security (Administration) Act 1999, the Department of Human Services is only allowed to collect information that is required to determine a person's rate of income support. Therefore, the Department only has information of which defined benefit schemes an income support receives a payment from.