

Community Affairs Committee

Examination of Budget Estimates 2008-2009

Additional Information Received

CONSOLIDATED VOLUME 4

**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**

FaHCSIA Outcomes 2 to 4

2 OCTOBER 2008

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATING TO THE EXAMINATION OF BUDGET EXPENDITURE FOR 2008-2009

Included in this volume are answers to written and oral questions taken on notice and tabled papers relating to the budget estimates hearing on 2 and 3 June 2008

FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

Senator	Quest. No.	Outcome 2: Output group 2.1 – Support for the Aged	Vol. 4 Page No.	Date tabled in the Senate or presented out of session*
	T1 tabled at hearing	Number of pensioners		24.06.08
	T15 tabled at hearing	Whether FaHCSIA/Human Services notified customers of changes to their Utility Allowance and Telephone Allowance		24.06.08
Humphries	146-151	Commonwealth Seniors Health Card		04.09.08
Fielding	153	Pensioners		04.09.08
Bernardi	154	Utilities allowance		04.09.08
Siewert	155, 156	Telephone allowance		04.09.08
Bernardi	217, 218	Commonwealth Seniors Health Card		04.09.08
Bernardi	219	Indexation of pensions		04.09.08
Bernardi	220, 221	Inquiry into the cost of living pressures		04.09.08
Humphries	286	Commonwealth Seniors Health Card		04.09.08
Outcome 2: Output group 2.2 – Support for People with Disabilities				
	T4 tabled at hearing	Priorities [disability/CSTDA]		24.06.08
	T5 tabled at hearing	Definitions – additional funding under CSTDA		24.06.08
	T8 tabled at hearing	Summary – provision of places through additional funding to CSTDA		24.06.08
	T10 tabled at hearing	Whether the efficiency dividend applies to the CSTDA		24.06.08
	T11 tabled at hearing	Whether \$1.9b in relation to CSTDA is new money, in addition to the existing CSTDA funding		24.06.08
	T12 tabled at hearing	Status or bilateral offers made by previous govt as part of negotiations of CSTDA 4		24.06.08
Boyce	157-161	Disability investment group		04.09.08
Allison	166-168	Younger people with disabilities in residential aged care		04.09.08
Siewert	169	Special Disability Trusts		04.09.08
Allison	172-173	Younger people with disabilities in residential aged care		04.09.08
Allison	174	In home based and nursing home services		04.09.08
Bernardi	222	Autism Spectrum Disorders		04.09.08
Bernardi	227	CSTDA		04.09.08
Abetz	282, 287	Disability Support Pension		04.09.08
Humphries	175	CSTDA funding		04.09.08

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Bernardi	223, 225	Autism Spectrum Disorders	04.09.08
Adams	170	National Mental Health & Disability Employment Strategy	04.09.08
Bernardi	224	Autism Spectrum Disorders	04.09.08
Abetz	283	Disability Support Pension	04.09.08

Outcome 2: Output group 2.3 – Support for Carers

	T6 tabled at hearing	Indicative data on carer payment processing times	24.06.08
Bernardi	176	Disability assistance funding	04.09.08

Outcome 2: Output group 2.4 – Addressing Youth Homelessness

	T23 tabled at hearing	Culturally and Linguistically Diverse KPI	24.06.08
--	-----------------------	---	----------

Outcome 2: Output group 2.5 – Support for Women

	T13 tabled at hearing	Data from paper based AppointWomen transitioned by OfW to electronic based AppointWomen when it commenced in July 2007	24.06.08
	T14 tabled at hearing	Cost of string quartet that played at Women's Budget briefing (15 May 08) and is Dept paying for it	24.06.08
Bernardi	177	Women on Government Boards	04.09.08
Allison	178	National Council to Reduce Violence Against Women and Children	04.09.08
Adams	281	Women's Safety Agenda	04.09.08

Senator **Quest. No.** **Outcome 3: Output group 3.1 – Support for Families**

	T16 tabled at hearing	Consent for the FRSP Online National Data Collection	24.06.08
	T17 tabled at hearing	Draft Privacy Impact Assessment on FRSP online	24.06.08
	T18 tabled at hearing	FRSP Privacy Impact Assessment	24.06.08
	T19 tabled at hearing	Summary of Recommendations from the Privacy Impact Assessments of FRSP Online and the FaHCSIA proposed responses	24.06.08
Adams	120, 121	Playgroups for Indigenous families	04.09.08
Abetz	162	Funding of St Giles Society Inc	04.09.08
Siewert	179, 182	Family Relationship Centres	04.09.08
Siewert	183-189	National framework	04.09.08
Siewert	190-191	Family Assistance	04.09.08
Siewert	195-196	FRSP online	04.09.08

Bernardi	197	Secondary income earners on zero income in FTB B families	04.09.08
Bernardi	200	Stronger Families and Communities Strategy Evaluation	04.09.08
Bernardi	228-230	Number of FTB B customers receiving maximum rate of payment	04.09.08
Bernardi	231	Average family income of FTB B customers	04.09.08
Bernardi	232-234	Baby bonus	04.09.08
Bernardi	235-236, 240	National Child Protection Framework consultations	04.09.08
Bernardi	237-239, 241-242	National Child Protection Framework	04.09.08
Bernardi	243, 245, 246	Child protection measure	04.09.08
Bernardi	247-251	Income management	04.09.08
Bernardi	199	Parent appropriation-funding agreements	04.09.08
Bernardi	198	FTB Part B	04.09.08
Siewert	244	National Framework	04.09.08
		Letter from FaHCSIA dd 26 Sep 08 correcting evidence provided at hearing on 3 June 08 relating to Maternity Immunisation Allowance/immunisation exemptions and conscientious objectors	13.11.08
Outcome 3: Output group 3.2 – Child Support			
Siewert	202	Child Support Scheme reforms – communication to MPs/Senators	04.09.08
Outcome 4: Output group 4.1 – Housing Support			
	T20 tabled at hearing	Loss of Rent Assistance associated with changes to income definitions	24.06.08
Colbeck	205	Housing Affordability Fund	04.09.08
Siewert	207	Housing assistance	04.09.08
Bernardi	208	Institutional investors in the residential and property market	04.09.08
Payne	209	Level of engagement and communication between departments	04.09.08
Bernardi	211	Homelessness	04.09.08
Payne	206	Housing Affordability Fund	04.09.08
Siewert	201	Child Support legislation	04.09.08
Outcome 4: Output group 4.2 –Supporting Financial Management			
Bernardi	212-215, 252	Commonwealth Financial Counselling Program	04.09.08
Outcome 4: Output group 4.3 – Community Recovery			
Outcome 4: Output group 4.4 – Community Partnership and Delivery			
Boyce	204	Homelessness	04.09.08
Boyce	216	Interaction with Social Inclusion Unit	04.09.08

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T1 How many “Pensioners” are there?

1. Pensioners overall

A) FaHCSIA has about **2.9 million** pensioners:

Payment	Count (as at March 2008)*
Age Pension	2,019,500
Carer Payment	127,000
DSP	727,400
Widow Pension class B	700
Wife Pension (AGE)	13,800
Wife Pension (DSP)	19,200
Total	2,907,600

** Data cleared through FaHCSIA Data. Requests.*

B) Including DEEWR pensions, about **3.28 million** pensioners

Payment	Count (as at March 2008)
Parenting Payment Single**	374,100

*** Data cleared through Quarterly Statistical Update for the Book of Evidence.*

C) If expanded to included DVA service pensions, there are about **3.66 million** pensioners.

Payment	Count (as at March 2008)
DVA Pensions***	382,200

**** Data sourced from DVA “Net Total Person Receiving Income Support or a Compensation pension – March 2008” web posted data www.dva.gov.au*

2. People of age pension age

As reported in the *2007 FaHCSIA Annual Report*:

- About **75 per cent** of Australian who are of age pension qualifying age receive a FaHCSIA or DVA service pension
 - NB - About 253,000 DVA pensioners are of age pension age.
- About **66 per cent** receive the Age Pension.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T15

Q: Last night Senator Bernardi asked whether FaHCSIA/Human Services notified customers of changes to their Utility Allowance and Telephone Allowance.

A: Letters were sent to all Utilities Allowance and Senior Concession Allowance customers in the fortnight commencing 18 February 2008. Attached is a mock-up of one of the letters sent to customers. It provides details of the increases in allowances, as well as advising customers of how they can apply for the increased rate of Telephone Allowance if they have a home internet connection.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 146

Topic: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Humphries asked:

The 2008-09 Budget indicates that the Commonwealth Seniors Health Card (CSHC) income test will change to include gross income from superannuation income streams from a taxed source and include income that is salary sacrificed to superannuation in the income assessment applied to the card, thereby raising the eligibility barrier.

The 08-09 budget shows at page 381 of Budget Paper 2 and at page 47 of the PBS shows a saving of over \$62 million from 2009-2012.

Are these amounts related to savings on pharmaceutical and various health services?

Answer:

Yes.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 147

Topic: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Humphries asked:

What is the breakdown of the numbers of the various types of health services or benefits from which many retirees will now be precluded?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Ageing has advised that savings attributable to the CSHC income test measure are as follows:

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Bulk Billing	0	-1.54	-1.61	-1.69
Extended Medicare Safety Net	0	-0.09	-0.35	-0.57
Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme	0	-18.83	-18.11	-19.29
Health and Ageing Portfolio Total	0	-20.46	-20.07	-21.55

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 148

Topic: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Humphries asked:

What other government concessions or benefits will be denied to those self funded retirees now to be excluded from obtaining a CSHC?

Answer:

The concessions and benefits no longer available when a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holder loses eligibility are:

- pharmaceuticals listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) at the concessional rate;
- bulk-billed GP appointments, at the discretion of the doctor;
- access to a concessional threshold, through the extended Medicare Safety Net;
- Telephone Allowance (for eligible telephone subscribers);
- Seniors Concession Allowance.

State, territory and local governments and some private providers may offer some additional health, household, transport, education and recreation concessions to CSHC holders. These concessions are offered at the discretion of the individual jurisdiction.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 149

Topic: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Humphries asked:

The 08-09 Budget shows at page 381 of Budget Paper 2 and at page 47 of the PBS shows a saving of over \$62 million from 2009-2012.

How have the savings been assessed?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Ageing has advised that:
The estimates have been calculated based on the projected difference in Medicare Benefits Scheme and Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme expenditure on potential CSHC holders to be affected by the measure compared to other patients in this broad population group.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 150

Topic: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Humphries asked:

What is the number of current card holders estimated to be excluded from these services?

Answer:

It is estimated that around 22,000 CSHC holders will lose eligibility in 2009-10.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 151

Topic: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Humphries asked:

What is the estimated number of potential CSHC holders who will not qualify in 2008-09 as a result of the changes to the income assessment?

Answer:

These changes do not take effect until 1 July 2009

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 153

Topic: Pensioners

Hansard Page: CA14 2/6

Senator Fielding asked:

What is the proportion of pensioners under financial stress?

Answer:

While there is no single agreed objective indicator of financial stress, a number of collections include subjective ratings and/or markers of financial stress. The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey and the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Household Expenditure Survey (HES) provide information on self-reported 'financial stress'.

The latest comprehensive data available is drawn from the 2004 HILDA survey. In the survey, respondents self-report their level of prosperity on a six point scale, ranking from "Very Poor" to "Prosperous". 3.1 per cent of Australians reported that they perceived themselves as poor or very poor compared with 9.1 per cent of people living in households with income support as their main source of income.

Across all household types, seniors self-reported lower incidences of low prosperity.

- 0.2 per cent of people aged 65 and over reported being 'very poor', with 1.6 per cent reporting themselves as being 'poor'.
- 25.1 per cent described themselves as 'just getting along'.
- The majority, 59.8 per cent, classified themselves as 'reasonably comfortable', along with 12.4 per cent who chose the response 'very comfortable'.
- 0.9 per cent stated that they were prosperous.

Another measure, used in the annual HILDA Statistical Reports since 2001, is the inability to meet financial commitments. This measure is based on questions about the inability to pay utility bills, rent, or the mortgage on time, having to pawn or sell possessions, going without meals, being unable to heat the home, asking for financial help from friends or family, or asking for help from a welfare/community organisation. In 2004, lone parent households of people aged 25 to 54 reported the highest financial stress (52.6 per cent) with the lowest reported rate being from elderly couple households (5.9 per cent).

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Since 1998-99, the Household Expenditure Survey has included a number of potential indicators of financial stress. FaHCSIA analysis of 2004 HILDA and HES data shows that levels of financial stress are statistically significantly lower amongst households headed by an older person than in other Australian households. This may reflect high levels of home ownership amongst elderly people and careful budgeting.

There is a range of other surveys that look at financial circumstances of Australians. Those used in the above answer are a robust and reliable source.

The Government acknowledges that some pensioners are facing cost of living pressures. For this reason, in the 2008-09 Budget, the Treasurer announced an inquiry into Australia's Future Tax System. One of the central components of this inquiry will be an investigation into measures to strengthen the financial security of seniors, carers and people with disability, including a review of the Age Pension, Carer Payment and Disability Support Pension. The Pension Review will investigate the appropriate levels of income support and allowances; the frequency of payments; and the structure and payment of concessions or other entitlements. The Pension Review will be completed by the end of February 2009.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 154

Topic: Utilities Allowance

Hansard Page: CA 106 2/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

Is the Department aware of the average cost of a senior's utility bill?

Answer:

The average cost of a senior's utility bill can vary considerably and is dependent on their personal circumstances and the types of utilities they use. The department has not conducted specific research into the cost of utilities.

The Future Tax System review will also consider improvements to the tax and transfer payment system for individuals and working families, including those for retirees.

As part of the review, the Government will consider ways of providing assistance to families on low incomes who are facing higher energy costs as a result of the Emissions Trading Scheme.

More generally, the current indexation arrangements within the income support system play a key role in adjusting payments to reflect general increases in the cost of living.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 155

Topic: Telephone Allowance

Hansard Page: CA 110/111 2/6

Senator Siewert asked:

Do you qualify for a Telephone Allowance if you only have a mobile phone and not a land line?
If you do qualify and wish to access the internet through your mobile phone do you receive the increased Telephone Allowance?

Answer:

You can qualify for Telephone Allowance (TAL) if you only have a mobile phone and not a land line.

To qualify for a higher rate of Telephone Allowance you must already qualify for Telephone Allowance, be of age or veteran pension age and be receiving an income support payment or pension, or be receiving a Disability Support Pension or Carer Payment or hold a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card and subscribe to a home internet service.

A customer who accesses the internet on a mobile phone connection rather than from a home phone connection may receive the higher rate of TAL.

If the customer has purchased a mobile phone plan for which he has specifically paid a premium to cover the cost of an internet connection and providing this account is not on a pre-paid temporary basis they are eligible for the higher rate of TAL. If a customer when purchasing a mobile phone plan receives internet access through the phone provider's web browser and does not pay an additional premium for internet access via an ISP of their choice or the cost of the internet access component cannot be identified, a higher rate of TAL is not payable.

If the customer has a pre-paid mobile internet connection this does not qualify for the higher rate of TAL. Pre-paid mobile internet access is generally used for temporary or very short term periods and is usually intended to be a one-off package.

This is different to pre-paid mobile phone usage where people tend to maintain credit on their phones or are still able to message or call with no credit, due to 'customer deals' from mobile phone providers. The temporary nature of pre-paid internet connections is not consistent with the Government's intention in delivering the higher rate of the allowance to those with a home internet connection.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 156

Topic: Telephone Allowance

Hansard Page: CA 112 2/6

Senator Siewert asked:

What advertising avenues did FaHSCIA take to inform customers of the new Telephone Allowance increase, specifically the internet?

Answer:

The Ministers of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Human Services, wrote to all seniors, carers and people with disabilities advising that they may be eligible for the new higher rate Telephone Allowance from March 2008. This letter also included details on the increased rates, frequency of payment and eligibility requirements for the new higher rate Telephone Allowance.

An article explaining the changes to Telephone Allowance and higher rate Telephone Allowance from 20 March 2008 was published in Centrelink's 2008 Autumn edition of 'News for Seniors' magazine.

The increase in Telephone Allowance for those with a home internet service was included in ministerial media releases.

Information about the changes is also available on the Department's website.

Centrelink has published the increase in payments and changed eligibility in its quarterly 'A Guide to Australian Government Payments' booklet, issued on 20 March 2008. This publication is available on Centrelink's website.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 217

Topic: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Has the Department undertaken an education campaign to inform eligible recipients of the increase in the Seniors Concession Allowance?

If so, how much did this cost to conduct?

Answer:

No – there was no education campaign, however customers were advised of the payment in a number of ways.

The Ministers of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Human Services, wrote to all Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders in February advising that the Seniors Concession Allowance would increase to \$500 a year and instalments would change from half yearly to quarterly from March 2008.

An article explaining the increase in the Seniors Concession Allowance and the change to quarterly instalments was published in Centrelink's 2008 Autumn edition of 'News for Seniors' magazine.

Information about the increase in the Seniors Concession Allowance and the change to quarterly instalments was included in media releases.

Information about the changes is also available on the Department's website.

Centrelink has published the increase in payments and changed eligibility in its quarterly 'A Guide to Australian Government Payments' booklet issued on 20 March 2008. This publication is also available on Centrelink's website.

The total cost to Centrelink of the mailout was \$1.73 million. (This was a combined mailout as all Utilities Allowance recipients were also sent letters advising them of similar changes to Utilities Allowance.)

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 218

Topic: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Has the Department undertaken an education campaign to inform eligible people about the Seniors Bonus payment of \$500?

If so, can you provide me with a breakdown of the costs of this education campaign?

Answer:

No – there was no education campaign, however customers were advised of the payment in a number of ways.

The Ministers of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Human Services, wrote to those eligible for the Seniors Bonus in June advising that a bonus would be paid to their bank accounts, where possible, by the end of June 2008.

Information about the payment of the Seniors Bonus was included in media releases.

Information about the Seniors Bonus is also available on the Department's website.

The cost to Centrelink for the mailout was \$1.24 million.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 219

Topic: Indexation of pensions

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Since the announcement of the Budget senior groups have gone public asking for the Government to increase the aged pension base rate from 25 per cent to 35 per cent of Male Total Weekly Earnings. Can you advise how much extra this would cost per year?

Answer:

FaHCSIA estimates the cost of increasing the pension benchmark from 25 to 35 per cent of Male Total Average Weekly Earnings would be around \$11 billion a year for age pensioners and around \$15 billion for all pensioners. These amounts would increase each year as the pension rates increases.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 220

Topic: Inquiry into the Cost of Living Pressures

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Mr Rudd stated when calling for the Senate Inquiry that “We believe a Senate Inquiry is the right way to go”. Can you please advise why the 15 recommendations of the inquiry were not included in this Budget?

Answer:

The Senate Community Affairs Committee’s report, *A decent quality of life: Inquiry into the cost of living pressures on older Australians* was tabled in Parliament on 20 March 2008.

The Government wanted to give due consideration to the report.

The Government’s response to the Committee’s report and recommendations is expected to be presented to Parliament shortly.

In the 2008-09 Budget, the Treasurer announced an inquiry into Australia’s Future Tax System. One of the central components of this inquiry will be an investigation into measures to strengthen the financial security of seniors, carers and people with disability, including a review of the Age Pension, Carer Payment and Disability Support Pension. The Pension Review will investigate the appropriate levels of income support and allowances; the frequency of payments; and the structure and payment of concessions or other entitlements. The Pension Review will be completed by the end of February 2009.

A review of this nature was one of the Senate Inquiry’s recommendations.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 221

Topic: Inquiry into the Cost of Living Pressures

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

On the 20 March 2008, the Senate Community Affairs Committee handed down 15 recommendations from the inquiry into the cost of living pressure on older Australians. Will those recommendations be investigated further in the review?

Answer:

The Government's response to the Committee's report and recommendations is expected to be presented to Parliament shortly.

Many of the issues highlighted in the recommendations of the Senate Community Affairs Committee's report, *A decent quality of life: Inquiry into the cost of living pressures on older Australians* will be examined in the context of the Inquiry into Australia's Future Tax System announced by the Treasurer in the 2008-09 Budget.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.1

Question No: 286

Topic: Commonwealth Seniors Health Card

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Humphries asked:

And what is the number of foregone concession prescriptions estimated as part of this saving?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Ageing provided the following information:

The estimated savings to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) as a result of the changes to the income test for the Commonwealth Seniors Health Card were based on about 984,000 scripts moving from the concessional to the general category in the first full year (2009-10), rising to about 1.1 million in 2011-12.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T4

Priority 1 Better Measurement of Current and Future Need For Disability Services

On 30 May 2008 Commonwealth, State and Disability Ministers agreed seek to improve the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC) and develop national estimates of potential demand. Health and Ageing Ministers will be approached to work together with Disability Ministers on the improvement of this survey. A project plan had also been developed to implement a nationally consistent methodology and data collection for measuring unmet demand.

The short term actions planned include: improvements to the 2009 SDAC; standardisation of jurisdictional unmet demand; development of a prevalence model that provides refined baseline estimates of current demand; and improvements in the data reported under the CSTDA through a Data Quality Framework which is currently being trialled. Longer term work planned includes improvements in small area estimates from SDAC.

Priority 2 Moving Toward National Population Benchmarks for Key Disability Service Types

The Community and Disability Service Ministers' have agreed to officials developing a 'plain English' and well understood national framework for benchmarking. Consideration will be given to the circumstances of Indigenous people and remote locations in the development of this framework. This framework will not limit the scope for innovation and provision for special circumstances. On 30th May Disability Ministers agreed:

- jurisdictions work collaboratively;
- a phased approach be adopted;
- the development of the framework include research into national approaches to benchmarking in Australia and internationally in the area of disability and other sectors that may be appropriate to the area of disability;
- progress on this priority will complement and feed into work in other priority areas – such as the determination of unmet need (priority 1) and development of an outcomes based performance reporting framework;
- where possible and feasible to do so, key stakeholders will be consulted in development of the benchmarking framework to help manage community expectations;
- the framework will complement, and take account of, any concurrent work by the Productivity Commission on the annual Report on Government Services, with particular attention to the framework of headline and sub-set performance indicators used in the Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage Report.

Priority 3 Making Older Carers A Priority For All Disability Services Under The CSTDA

On 30th May State and Territory Disability Ministers agreed to match \$901 million from the *Disability Assistance Package* directed to helping older carers. Funding will be transferred on a dollar for dollar matching basis with the states and territories.

As part of implementing the older carers element of the *Disability Assistance Package* contact has been made with approximately 1600 older carers by Centrelink Transition Support Workers. In line with the election commitment the department has developed an approach to transfer older carers to state and territory funded services in the context of the CSTDA negotiations.

Centrelink will contact older carers to manage their expectations and personally transfer them to state and territory services. In anticipation of a successful outcome for older carers through the Commonwealth State Territory Disability Agreement, the department is working directly with the states/territories to manage the individual transfer of the older carers with a view to not requiring them to re-tell their story.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Priority 4 Quality Improvement Systems Based On The National Disability Services Standards For All CSTDA Services

At the meeting of Disability Ministers on 1 February 2008, Ministers confirmed a commitment to a nationally consistent approach to quality, and supported the inclusion of 'Quality Improvement Systems Based on National Disability Standards for all CSTDA Services' as a priority under the next CSTDA.

The National Disability Services' Quality Strategy will drive a nationally agreed approach to quality assurance and continuous improvement of services, without prescribing a particular, single system. The national approach would include consistent quality management principles, and consistent approaches to the verification of compliance with standards.

The development of a National Disability Services Quality Strategy would be underpinned by a review of the National Standards for Disability Services, to validate the relevance and applicability of the National Standards for Disability Services to services provided under a new CSTDA.

A detailed implementation plan will be provided to Ministers in July 2008.

Priority 5 Improved Service Planning And Strategies To Simplify Access To Services

On 1 February 2008, at a special CDSMC meeting, Ministers agreed that Improved Service Planning and Strategies to Simplify Access to Services would be a priority for the next CSTDA (Priority Five).

On 30th May 2008 Disability Ministers agreed to the development of a National Framework for Service Planning and Access for Specialist Disability Services that will clearly articulate key outcomes that focus on reforming the process of service delivery and enabling better access to services.

The completion and acceptance by Ministers in July 2008, of a National Framework for Service Planning and Access for Specialist Disability Services will be followed by the development of jurisdictional implementation plans. These plans could include (but not be limited to) responsibilities, actions required and associated timelines.

Priority 6 Focusing On Early Intervention, Lifelong Planning and Increasing the Independence And Social Participation Of People With Disability

At the Special Meeting of Disability Services Ministers held on 1 February 2008, Ministers reconfirmed that early intervention should remain a national priority for CSTDA 4, also taking into account the importance of lifelong planning and increasing the independence and social participation of people with a disability.

On 30th May 2008 Disability Ministers agreed to an early intervention and prevention framework that has broad applicability and includes but extends beyond early childhood intervention services, and takes into account the importance of lifelong planning and increasing the independence and social participation of people with a disability. The framework is intended to guide jurisdictions in utilising early intervention and prevention approaches. As the benefits of an investment in early intervention and prevention are long term, sustained effort is needed to build and maintain support for this approach. It is proposed that initial efforts will be concentrated on building the evidence base on early intervention and prevention with regard to the target group for specialist disability services.

Officials will report on progress to Ministers in July 2008.

Priority 7 Improving workforce capacity for the disability sector

On 30th May 2008 Disability Ministers agreed to a strategy for progressing the national workforce capacity project for disability services. This includes scoping down the priority to the disability sector only and will not include further exploration and identification of workforce strategies across the community service sector. This will allow for a more immediate progression of identified strategies.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

The strategy also includes progression of work in a way that does not unnecessarily duplicate work already undertaken in the broader community sector by incorporating the first three recommendations identified in the 2006 research report into phase 2 of the CDSMAC Structural Issues in the Workforce community services Workforce Profile Project. Progress will be reported to Ministers in July 2008.

Priority 8 Improving access for indigenous people with a disability to CSTDA services

On 1 February 2008, at a special Disability Services Minister's Meeting, Ministers agreed that Improved Access for Indigenous People to Disability Services would be a priority for the next disability agreement (Priority Eight).

There is a disparity in health and well-being outcomes experienced by Indigenous people, including Indigenous people with a disability. The most recent data suggests that prevalence rates of severe or profound disability are more than twice as high among Indigenous people. In April 2007, the Council of Australian Government reaffirmed its commitment to closing the outcomes gap between Indigenous people and other Australians over a generation.

During 2007, in planning for the fourth CSTDA, it was agreed that the development of a new disability agreement provided an opportunity to contribute to efforts to address the disparity in health and well-being outcomes, experienced by Indigenous people with a disability. This could be achieved by ensuring specialist disability services are accessible for Indigenous people with a disability and that improved access to services would result in better health and well-being outcomes. It was noted that this priority would build upon research conducted as part of the third CSTDA on services for Indigenous people with a disability, providing an evidence base for continuing efforts towards equity.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T5

DEFINITIONS

Additional Funding Under CSTDA

“Accommodation Support Services” means services which provide accommodation to people with disabilities, and services which provide the support needed to enable a person with a disability to remain in their existing accommodation. Accommodation Support Services may include:

- **‘group homes’** services that provide combined accommodation and community-based residential support to people in a residential setting. Usually no more than 6 service users are located in any one house, although this can vary. Group homes are generally staffed 24 hours a day.
- **‘hostels’** means a service that provides residential support in a congregate setting of usually less than 20 beds, and may or may not provide 24 hour residential support. Many are situated in an institutional setting and also have respite beds included on the premises. In contrast to institutions, hostels usually do not provide segregated specialist disability support services.
- **‘institutions/residentials’** means services that are usually located on large parcels of land and provide 24-hour residential support in a congregate or cluster setting of 7 to 20 beds. In some cases a range of residential and vocational/day services, and/or respite services are provided on the one site.

“Accommodation Place” varies between jurisdictions, but generally means a permanent placement in Accommodation Support Services.

“Individual Support Packages” means the provision of specialist support or disability services that are tailored to individual need. Individual Support Packages provide case management for clients with complex and or multiple needs. These packages may be made up of any combination of specialist support or disability services including:

- Aids and Equipment
- Accommodation Support
- Community Support
- Community Access
- Respite
- Employment
- Advocacy

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

“In-Home Support” means individual in-home living support and/or developmental programming services for people with disability, supplied independently of accommodation. The accommodation may be owned, rented or otherwise provided, but should be independent of the agency providing the in-home support service.

“In-Home Support place” varies between jurisdictions, but generally means a period of time accessing In-Home Support services (defined above). A place may be used by a number of people.

“Respite services” means services that specifically provide a short-term and time-limited break for families and other voluntary care givers of people with disabilities, to assist in supporting and maintaining the primary care giving relationship, while providing a positive experience for the person with a disability.

“Respite place” varies between jurisdictions, but generally is an episode in respite care. An episode is a period of time in a respite service, which is usually for a period of a number of days and may extend up to a number of weeks.

“Respite Effect” may be provided by non-specific respite services that provide relief for a carer, similar to that provided by respite services.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T8

Summary - Provision of places through additional funding to CSTDA

Original Disability Assistance Package (\$962 million over five years)

Respite	\$270.3 million 800 places
Supported Accommodation	\$562.6 million 175 facilities providing 1,750 places

30 May Announcement* (\$1.9 billion over four years)

Respite	10,000 places
Supported Accommodation	2,600 places**
Individual support packages	9,900 packages
In-home support packages	2,300 packages

*A breakdown of State and Territory funding against these elements is not available. This information will become available following completion of all state/territory budget processes and completion of the bi-laterals relating to this additional funding.

**Includes 300 places made available through \$100 million for Ageing Carers

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T10

Does the efficiency dividend apply to the CSTDA?

Also, we indicated yesterday that the CSTDA was not subject to the efficiency dividend.

We can confirm that the efficiency dividend definitely does not apply to the CSTDA.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T11

Please clarify whether the \$1.9 billion in relation to the CSTDA is new money, in addition to the existing CSTDA funding.

The recently announced \$1.9 billion funding includes \$100 million of new non-matched Commonwealth funding, \$1.8 billion of matched funding from both the Commonwealth and the States and Territories. This consists of \$901m of new state and territory funding and the Commonwealth's election commitment to move \$901 million of the previous government's *Disability Assistance Package* into the CSTDA.

The \$1.9 million is additional to CSTDA funding.

The extension of CSTDA 3 from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 continued Commonwealth funding of \$636.7 million for this period. A further extension of CSTDA 3 from 30 June 2008 to 31 December 2008 will provide \$324 million from the Commonwealth. The extension to CSTDA 3 is based on the terms and conditions of the Agreement and associated bilateral agreements and includes the Respite for Older Carers bilateral.

Other elements of the *Disability Assistance Package* (\$900 million over 5 years) continue to be delivered by the Commonwealth include:

- **\$721.2 million** to provide carers of children with disability under the age of 16 years to receive an **annual payment of \$1000** to help purchase assistance for their child.
- **\$23.6 million** over five years to provide extra support for children with disability, including outside school hours and vacation care and provision of funding for specialist disability child care providers.
- **\$101 million** for increased investment in employment services for people with disability. The Commonwealth will also provide additional support to people with disability working in business services who want to move to open employment.
- **\$1.5 million** in 2007-08 to conduct an inquiry to identify the barriers to private sector involvement in the delivery of disability supported accommodation.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T12

The Department said they would clarify the status of bilateral offers made by the previous government as part of the negotiations of CSTDA 4.

On 3 April 2007 at a special meeting of state and territory Disability Ministers the former Minister made an offer to all states and territories to provide bids for matched funding to address unmet need for accommodation and respite for consideration by the Australian Government. The ACT, NT and WA responded with in-principle commitments to this offer.

On 4 July 2007 the former Minister wrote to remaining Disability Services Ministers advising the bilateral offer was no longer available in light of the injection of \$1.8 billion by the Australian Government through the *Disability Assistance Package*.

On 17 October 2007 the previous Minister wrote to ACT, NT and WA Disability Ministers giving in principle agreement to dollar for dollar matched funding (which was expected to come from the Disability Assistance Package).

Disability Ministers met on 30 May 2008 and agreed to a distribution to jurisdictions of \$901 million from the *Disability Assistance Package* that would be matched by states and territories. Jurisdictions that had allocated additional funding through budget processes in line with the above offers can use these funds towards their matching requirements.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 157

Topic: Disability Investment Group

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Boyce asked:

How were members of the Disability Investment Group selected?

Answer:

Members were selected by Mr. Bill Shorten, MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Children's Services.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 158

Topic: Disability Investment Group

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Boyce asked:

Were applications for DIG membership called for publicly? If so, how many applications were received? What selection criteria were used?

Answer:

Applications were not sought publicly. See also QoN 161 on DIG membership.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 159

Topic: Disability Investment Group

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Boyce asked:

What are the terms of reference, objectives and purposes of DIG? Are these publicly available?

Answer:

Terms of reference for the Disability Investment Group (DIG) are attached (Attachment A) and are publicly available at <http://www.facsia.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/disabilities/policy-dig.htm>.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Attachment A

Disability Investment Group
Terms of Reference

- Identify international best practice in leveraging greater investment in disability support.
- Identify opportunities to increase private sector involvement and investment in the funding of disability services and related infrastructure, including new innovations to develop alternative funding sources and arrangements for people with disability and their families; identify barriers to this and how they might be overcome.
- Identify current and potential avenues for philanthropic investment in disability support.
- Explore government assistance to encourage family and private investment in the provision of housing, education, employment, equipment and other support for people with disability.
- Consider, with the community and financial institutions, avenues for new products and services to assist families plan for the future of their child with a disability.
- Develop options for investment in housing for people with disability through private and shared equity.
- Develop ways to assist people with disability, their families and not-for-profit organisations to engage with the private sector to enable development of accommodation and support options.
- Identifying research reforms to encourage private sector engagement in research.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 160

Topic: Disability Investment Group

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Boyce asked:

What is the Budget for 08-09 for this group? How are members remunerated? What other expenses are covered? How often will DIG meet?

Answer:

The Budget for the Disability Investment Group for 2008-09 is \$750,000.

Members of the DIG are remunerated in accordance with the Remuneration Tribunal's determinations (2007/10 and 2007/16). Members are reimbursed for travel expenses, including taxi fares and where appropriate members are also reimbursed for carer's travel and associated costs.

DIG expects to meet monthly until December 2008.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 161

Topic: Disability Investment Group

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Boyce asked:

Please list the qualifications related to disability of each DIG member?

Answer:

The focus of the Disability Investment Group is to provide options for increasing private sector investment in disability services. Members of the group were chosen for their extensive experience across a range of corporate, philanthropic, and government activities in the area of disability and/or investment.

Mr Ian Silk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Executive, AustralianSuper • Over 13 years experience in finance industry • Convenor of the Industry Funds Forum • Bachelor of Economics, Diploma of Financial Services (Financial Planning) and Graduate Diploma in Labour Relations Law • Ian has also worked in the public sector in a range of management roles
Mr Bruce Bonyhady	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President, Philanthropy Australia • Chairman, ANZ Executors and Trustees • Chairman, Yooralla Society of Victoria (provider of disability services)
Prof Allan Fels AO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dean, Australian and New Zealand School of Government • Chairman, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission 1995 to 30 June 2003 • Honorary Professor Faculty of Business and Economics Monash University • Professorial Fellow, Department of Political Science, University of Melbourne. • Keen interest in mental health issues and has taken a prominent role in pushing for more resources for mental health.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Mr Bill Moss AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairman, Boston Management Services • Formerly, Head of Banking and Property Group Macquarie Bank. • Champion of the physically disabled - launched Lime Taxis, a luxury wheelchair-accessible fleet service in Sydney.
Ms Mary Ann O'Loughlin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director, The Allen Consulting Group – Head of Social Practice area. • Extensive executive management experience in both the public and corporate sectors.
Ms Kathy Townsend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing Director, Kathleen Townsend Executive Solutions. • Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management, • Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. • Member of the Council of Swinburne University, the Audit and Risk Committee of Australian Volunteers International and the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Key Centre for Women's Health at Melbourne University.
Mr John Walsh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers – specialist in accident compensation and health insurance and has been involved in the health and disability industry for nearly 20 years.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 166

Topic: Younger People with Disabilities in Residential Aged Care

Hansard Page: CA76 2/6

Senator Allison asked:

Can you provide an update of how the implementation of the program is going, listing the service providers, number of clients and nature of support?

Answer:

In accordance with the agreement reached at the Council of Australian Governments in February 2006 which mandated the establishment of the Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care Program, day-to-day management and administration of the Program is the responsibility of State and Territory Governments. This includes determining eligibility for participation in the Program, service prioritisation, allocation of funding to individual clients or service providers and systemic planning.

The following information is either provided directly by the relevant State Government disability services agency (New South Wales), or is derived from information provided by the relevant State or Territory Government disability services agency (all other jurisdictions).

In **New South Wales**, services are being provided under the Program as follows:

Provider	Location	Number of clients	Nature of support
Australian Home Care Services, Victoria	Hunter Local Planning Area (LPA)	4	Supported accommodation
New Horizons	Hunter & Central Coast LPAs	7	"In-Reach" Packages

- Additional supported accommodation places will roll out as the result of a current Expression of Interest (EOI) process which aims to establish at least 100 new supported accommodation places across NSW for the YPIRAC target population over the next two years. The EOI process closed on 18 April 2008 and applications are currently being assessed.
- 52 additional YPIRAC In-Reach Packages will be rolled out from July 2008 following the completion of a state-wide tender which established a network of providers across

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

NSW. The Minister announced the approved providers on 25 May 2008. 109 packages will be available by the end of the program.

- In-home support will also be provided to clients identified to move home/alone or remain home/alone with support through the YPIRAC Program. Three clients have been identified for this option and are being supported with this option.
- In-home support will also be provided to clients identified to move home/alone or remain home/alone with support through the YPIRAC Program. Three clients have been identified for this option and are being assessed.

In **Victoria**, the following services have commenced under the Program:

Type of service	Location	Number of places	Commenced	Service provider
Shared supported accommodation (medium to high needs)	Eastern suburban Melbourne	6	February 2008	Scope Victoria
Shared supported accommodation (individual funding)	Metro Melbourne	3	2007-08	Choice of provider
Home-based support packages (including attendant care, rehabilitation, aids and equipment)	Victoria-wide	32 (individual support packages)	2007-08	Choice of provider
Enhanced services in residential aged care (including community access activities, aids and equipment, transport assistance, therapy and rehabilitation and social and family connection)	Victoria-wide	90 (individual service packages)	March 2008	Choice of provider

Funding has been committed towards the following services:

Type of service	Location	Number of places	Commencement	Service provider
Shared supported accommodation (high and complex needs)	Inner Melbourne	10	2008-09	Villa Maria Society
Shared supported accommodation (medium to high needs)	Suburban Melbourne	9	2008-09	Yooralla Ltd

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Shared supported accommodation (people with a degenerative neurological condition)	Suburban Melbourne	6	2008-09	Wesley Mission
	Suburban Melbourne	3	2008-09	Multiple Sclerosis Ltd
Shared supported accommodation for people who have a disability	Geelong	6	2009-10	Karingal Inc
Shared supported accommodation for people who have a disability	North & Western Region	6	2009-10	Yooralla Ltd

Submission processes will occur during 2008/09 to allocate funding for further accommodation service development.

In **Queensland**, the following services have commenced under the Program:

Type of service	Location	Number of places	Commenced	Service provider
Family-based support packages	Across Queensland	2 (individual support packages)	2006-07	Tablelands Respite Service; Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland (CPLQ)
Shared supported accommodation (high and complex needs)	Suburban Brisbane	16 There are currently 14 people residing in the apartments. The two vacancies are expected to be filled in the near future.	December 2007	Wesley Mission Brisbane / Youngcare Apartments
Shared supported accommodation (high and complex needs)	Far North Queensland	10 There are currently 5 people living in the houses. Two further people have been accepted and the remaining 3 vacancies will be filled in the near future.	April 2008	St John's Community Care
Family-based support packages	Across Queensland	19 people being supported or in the process of being supported.	2007-08	Spinal Injuries Association; Leeding Care; CASSI; Coastal Networks Inc; Life Without Barriers; Integrated Family and Youth; CPLQ,

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

				RSL Care; Southern Cross Community Care; Bluecare; Spinal Injuries Assoc.
Independent Living	Across Queensland	2	2006-07	Spinal Injuries Assoc; a service provider in the Northern Territory
Shared supported accommodation	Across Queensland	3	2007-08	Integrated Family and Youth; Life Without Barriers; Southern Cross Community Care

In addition, funding was provided to the Brain Injury Association of Queensland to conduct 200 individual care needs assessments over two years 2006-07 to 2008-09.

In **South Australia**, the following services have commenced under the Program:

Type of service	Location	Number of places	Commenced	Service provider
Shared supported accommodation	Across South Australia	9 in 2006-07, 9 continuing in 2007-08 and 2 new	2006-07	Community Living and Support Services; Personal Support and Development (SA Govt); Paraplegic and Quadriplegic Association; Community Lifestyles Inc; Community Living Project Inc; Allied Health Services (SA Govt)
In home accommodation support services and respite services	Across South Australia	3 in 2006-07, 3 continuing in 2007-08	2006-07	
Aids and equipment support	Adelaide	4	2006-07 only	Independent Living Equipment Program
In home accommodation support services and respite services	Across South Australia	3 continuing in 2007-08 and 5 new	2007-08	Community Living and Support Services; Paraplegic and Quadriplegic Association; ESAR Home Care Pty Ltd
Aids and equipment support	Adelaide	2	2007-08 only	Independent Living Equipment Program

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Enhanced services for people in residential aged care	Country & Metro	1 continuing in 2007-08 and 6 new	2007-08	Paraplegic and Quadriplegic Association, Community Choice; Riverland respite.
Enhanced services for people in residential aged care	Country	1	2006-2007	

In **Western Australia**, the following services have commenced under the Program:

Type of service	Location	Number of places	Commenced	Service provider
In home support services	Perth, Pilbara	6	2006-07 –to 2008-09	Elba Inc; Pilbara and Kimberley Care, MS Society, Baptistcare, Perth Homecare Services
Accommodation services	Across Western Australia	10	2006-07 –to 2008-09	Transition and Integration Services; Nascha Inc; Midwest Community Living Association; Perth Homecare Services; South West FSA; Pilbara & Kimberley Care; Senses Foundation; Midway Community Care; Care Options; Southwest Family Support Association; Phyllos
Service Enhancement / community access support	Across Western Australia	4	2006-07 –to 2008-09	Hills Community Support Group Inc; Nulsen Haven Association

Funding has been committed towards the following services:

Type of service	Location	Number of places	Commencement	Service provider
Shared supported accommodation	Perth metropolitan area	16	2010	Rocky Bay Inc
Accommodation and respite services	Across Western Australia	13	2008-09	Rocky Bay; Brightwater Care Group Inc.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

In **Tasmania**, enhanced services packages have been developed for 15 clients in residential aged care across the State, with further packages to commence in 2008-09. These packages draw on a range of Disability service providers whose services meet jurisdictional and national standards. The services include 1:1 support for community access, aids and equipment, transport, health professional assessments and therapy and day support services. Three packages of services to divert people with disabilities from admission to residential aged care commenced in 2007-08, and will continue into 2008-09. The providers are the Community Options Service and North West Residential Support Service. Funding commitments have been made to develop accommodation for 6 people wishing to move from aged care. This accommodation is scheduled to be completed in June 2009.

In the **Northern Territory**, Life Without Barriers and Ability Focus NT are to provide services to move or divert 5 people from residential aged care in Darwin and Alice Springs from 2008-09 (3 in 2007-08). Three packages of community access, social inclusion and therapy services are being provided as enhancement services for people in residential aged care.

In the **Australian Capital Territory**, 4 packages of services across a range of service providers were developed in 2007-08 to divert younger people with disability from admission to residential aged care. These will continue into 2008-09. Assessment and transition planning will commence in 2008-09 for 4 younger people with disability currently in residential aged care.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 167

Topic: Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care

Hansard Page: CA76 2/6

Senator Allison asked:

What is the estimate of the number of those not in residential aged care who would qualify for the supported accommodation, that is, the people who are still at home?

Answer:

Data on the numbers of young people with disability who are not in residential aged care (that is people who are still living at home) who might qualify for supported accommodation are not available.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 168

Topic: Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care

Hansard Page: CA76 2/6

Senator Allison asked:

The Australian Healthcare Associates did a survey of people currently in residential care who are under 65. Is this document publicly available?

Answer:

The report by the Australian Healthcare Associates, entitled 'Investigation of Support Needs and Service Models for Younger People with High Clinical Care Needs', has not yet been made publicly available.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 169

Topic: Special Disability Trusts

Hansard Page: CA97 2/6

Senator Siewert asked:

How many applications have been withdrawn and how many are currently being assessed?

Answer:

Centrelink has reported that from 20 September 2006 (commencement of the initiative) to 31 March 2008, 38 applications had been withdrawn.

During the current period for which data is available, 1 January - 31 March 2008, 88 applications for beneficiary status were in the process of being assessed

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 172

Topic: Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care

Hansard Page: CA77 2/6

Senator Allison asked:

What will be provided under the five-year plan for extra services, over and above what might be available in nursing homes to younger people who may benefit from rehabilitation?

Answer:

Enhanced services that may be available to people with disability through the YPIRAC Program include community access, aids and equipment, various forms of therapy (eg physiotherapy), transport assistance, case management and holiday support.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 173

Topic: Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care

Hansard Page: CA78 2/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

Are there additional services being provided that were not available before? eg, more regular, external services, specialist services.

Answer:

Additional services available through the YPIRAC Program across the jurisdictions are :

Type of service / support being funded through YPIRAC for younger people with disability in residential aged care	Numbers of clients receiving this service
Community Access	143
Therapy (various)	67
Aids and equipment (including miscellaneous items eg computers, sports equipment	92
Transport Assistance	46
Case Management	126
Holiday Support	9
Other	89
Total	572

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Please list all Branches/Offices/Consulted:

1. Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (New South Wales)
2. Department of Human Services (Victoria)
3. Disability Services Queensland
4. Department for Families and Communities (South Australia)
5. Disability Services Commission (Western Australia)
6. Department of Health and Human Services (Tasmania)
7. Department of Health and Community Services (Northern Territory)
8. Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services (Australian Capital Territory)

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 174

Topic: In Home Based & Nursing Home Services

Hansard Page: CA80 2/6

Senator Allison asked:

How many home based or nursing home support based are able to be long term?

Answer:

The availability of home based or nursing home support based services is determined by individual assessments taking into account applicants' specific situations, needs, preferences and services required. These factors may change over time, as may the circumstances of the carers.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 222

Topic: Autism Spectrum Disorders

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Budget Paper No.2 (p. 143) indicates that FaHCSIA will be contributing \$17.9 million (over four years) to additional child care places. Will this funding be going towards the six early intervention centres for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder?

Answer:

The \$17.9 million in the FaHCSIA budget for child care places is for the six autism specific child care centres.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 227

Topic: CSTDA

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

On 9 January 2008 Minister Macklin announced \$315 million to be paid to the States and Territories to continue services for people with disability while CSTDA negotiations took place. Can you provide me with a breakdown of the State/Territory allocations of these funds?

Answer:

The breakdown of payments by jurisdiction is as follows:

Jurisdiction	Total for 6 month period (\$)
New South Wales	106,145,003
Victoria	71,078,793
Queensland	59,883,219
South Australia	34,996,511
Western Australia	25,343,372
Tasmania	10,712,670
Northern Territory	3,278,395
Australian Capital Territory	4,401,306
Total	315,839,269

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 282

Topic: Disability Support Pension

Hansard Page:

Senator Abetz asked:

The Budget forecasts a \$562 million increase in the Disability Support Pension as a result of fewer people than expected transitioning from the DSP to Newstart. What are the actual figures for the number of job seekers who have transitioned? How many job seekers were expected to transition?

Answer:

At 30 May 2008, 492 Disability Support Pension recipients granted Disability Support Pension between 11 May 2005 and 30 June 2006 had transferred to Newstart Allowance following their 2 year transition review.

The numbers of job seekers granted Disability Support Pension between 11 May 2005 and 30 June 2006 who were estimated to transfer to Newstart Allowance, at the implementation of the initiative, at review were as follows:

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Newstart	1,300	19,400	1,300

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 287

Topic: Disability Support Pension

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Abetz asked:

Question:

Can the Department provide current figures for the number of job seekers in receipt of the Disability Support Pension?

Answer:

As at 27 June 2008, there were 226 387 Disability Support Pension recipients recorded on the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations employment services system as job seekers. Of this group 76 133 have an active referral to one or more Employment Service providers. The Employment Service providers are Job Network, Personal Support Program, Disability Employment Network, Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Job Capacity Assessments.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 175

Topic: CSTDA Funding

Hansard Page: CA 83

Senator Humphries asked:

Under the CSTDA arrangements if States have made a commitment to put money in will that money come off the top before the deal is done multilaterally with the other states?

Answer:

State and Territory Disability Ministers have agreed to deliver \$900 million in funding, on top of the Australian Government's \$900 million, from the Disability Assistance Package to provide additional support for disability services across Australia over the next four years.

This funding, along with the Commonwealth's \$100 million capital investment will provide an additional \$1.9 billion which will deliver over 24,800 new places in disability services.

The \$901 million was offered to the States and Territories and accepted on the basis of potential disability population in each State and Territory.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 223

Topic: Autism Spectrum Disorders

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

During Additional Estimates hearings in February I asked Mr Lewis (Group Manager for Autism Support) about where these six autism centres were to be built. He said that one would be built in north-western Tasmania, but there had been no decision by the Minister about the sites of the other five.

- Has the Minister decided where the other five will be located?
- What is the current status of the centres?

Answer:

The establishment of six Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centres is part of the broader Australian Government commitment to establish 260 Early Learning and Care Centres across Australia. These six centres will provide early learning programs and specific support to children with autism spectrum disorders (ADSs) in a long day care setting and is in addition to the Australian Government's \$190 million *Helping Children with Autism* package.

This commitment is being jointly implemented by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) and the Department of Education, Employment and Work Place Relations (DEEWR). The centres will be located in:

- South Western Sydney
- Brisbane
- Adelaide
- North West Tasmania - building on Tasmanian capacity
- Melbourne
- Perth.

FaHCSIA will seek applications in August 2008 via an open selection process for service providers to establish and operate these autism specific child care centres. The exact sites for each centre will be subject to this selection process.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 225

Topic: Autism Spectrum Disorders

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

In February I also asked about the ultimate function of these centres. Mr Lewis said that “we have not worked through that detail as yet with the minister.”

- Three months on, has this detail been worked through with the minister?
- If not, why hasn’t this been done yet?
- If so, what are the details of functions of these centres?

Answer:

The six Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centres will be approved long day care centres with the capacity to deliver a minimum of 20 approved child care places for children aged 0 to 6 with autism spectrum disorders (ADSs).

They will provide early learning and specific support that will target the learning and development needs of young children with ADSs and their families to support their participation in child care and early childhood education and to transition to further educational or therapeutic settings.

The service delivery models for the Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centres will be based on the Early Intervention Best Practice Guidelines published by Prior and Roberts (2006) and current evidence of best practice in child care and early childhood education for children with special needs.

FaHCSIA will seek applications in August via an open selection process for service providers to establish and operate these centres.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 170

Topic: National Mental Health & Disability Employment Strategy

Hansard Page: CA132 2/6

Senator Adams asked:

Could you please explain the decrease in amount of funding available?

Answer:

The National Mental Health & Disability Employment Strategy is a new initiative and therefore there has not been a change in funding. No funds were allocated to FaHCSIA, the strategy is being progressed within existing resources.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 224

Topic: Autism Spectrum Disorders

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Mr Lewis also mentioned last February that the Department had been meeting with State and Territory groups to discuss autism related issues, and help prepare advice for the Minister. Are these meetings still continuing? If not, what have been the outcomes of these meetings?

Answer:

The consultations with state and territory governments are ongoing through the Disability Policy and Research Working Group (DPRWG).

As part of the work of the DPRWG, all states and territories are contributing information on mapping of their existing autism services and are providing this information to FaHCSIA. This will assist to better target Australian Government effort and avoid duplication during the implementation phase of the package from 1 July 2008.

At the Disability Services Ministers' Conference on 30 May 2008, State and Territory Disability Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to work to improve outcomes for children and adults with autism.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.2

Question No: 283

Topic: Disability Support Pension

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Abetz asked:

1. How many are expected to transfer over the next financial year from the Disability Support Pension to Newstart Allowance? How has this forecast been calculated?

Answer:

1. It is estimated that in 2008-09, 586 Disability Support Pension recipients granted between 11 May 2005 and 30 June 2006 will transfer from Disability Support Pension to Newstart Allowance.

The calculation used to estimate the number of people likely to transfer to Newstart Allowance at review is based on the outcomes of those who were granted Disability Support Pension between 11 May 2005 and 30 June 2006 who were reviewed in 2007-08.

Note: The period of 11 May 2005 and 30 June 2006 relates to the 2005 Budget night announcements of changes to Disability Support Pension where recipients granted DSP in this period were to be reviewed 2 years from date of grant under new work test rules.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T6

INDICATIVE DATA ON CARER PAYMENT PROCESSING TIMES

Data on average turnaround times is not readily available.

The following data outlines the turnaround times between application for Carer Payment and finalisation of the claim, and is sourced from Centrelink administrative data.

If further information is required on average turnaround times, please advise Robyn Oswald 6244 1357 or 0418 165 204.

**Timeframe for finalisation of Carer Payment claims granted in
period 1/7/07 to 30/5/08**

Timeframe	Number of claims finalised	Percentage
7 days or less	7956	21.56%
8 - 14 days	5554	15.05%
15 - 21 days	5219	14.14%
22 - 28 days	4844	13.13%
29 - 35 days	3743	10.14%
36 - 42 days	3399	9.21%
43 - 49 days	2231	6.05%
50 - 56 days	883	2.39%
57 - 63 days	709	1.92%
64 - 70 days	505	1.37%
71 - 77 days	344	0.93%
78 - 84 days	265	0.72%
85 - 91 days	240	0.65%
92 - 98 days	181	0.49%
99 days or more	826	2.24%
Total	36899	

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.3

Question No: 176

Topic: Disability Assistance Funding

Hansard Page: CA88 2/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

Can a table be provided outlining the organisations FaHCSIA funds directly, and when the funding agreements are set to run out or are due to end?

Answer:

The first spreadsheet (Attachment A) identifies each of the 42 organisations that receive Targeted Support funding and each agreement is due to expire on 31 December 2008 as the Targeted Support Program is transferring to each of the State and Territory Governments.

Attachment B identifies each of the 210 organisations that receive Employment Assistance funding and each of these agreements is due to expire on 30 June 2010.

Attachment C identifies each of the 69 organisations that receive funding to develop new or additional respite capacity. These are three year agreements with 66 agreements due to end on 31 October 2010, one agreement due to end on 31 October 2008 and two agreements due to end on 31 October 2009. Note: These funding agreements transfer to State and Territory Governments from 1 July 2008.

Attachment D identifies each of the 13 organisations that received children's services funding. These services include nine services that were defined as out-of-scope from the Child Care Services Support Program, delivering outside school hours care for children and teenagers with disability; two services were election commitments and one service was engaged in the Northern Territory to replace service delivery when one of the nine out-of-scope services ceased offering services. The other organisation funded was the Parenting Research Centre engaged to provide MyTime pilots for primary and secondary school age children. A total of 13 services were funded in 2007-08 and all these agreement timeframes vary slightly.

Attachment E identifies the 55 Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centres that receive Respite and Other Carer Support funding through the following two programs - the Respite and Information Services for Young Carers Program and the Respite Support for Carers of Young People with a Severe or Profound Disability Program that provides immediate and short-term respite. The end date for these funding agreements is 31 November 2008.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Attachment F covers three funding programs that provide a mix of services for people who have vision, hearing and other impairments. The first program is the National Auslan Interpreter Booking and Payment Service Program (NABS) that provides funding to one agency, Wesley Mission, Brisbane. The program has been administered since January 2005 and the funding agreement is due to expire on 30 June 2010. The second is the Print Disability Services Program which currently provides funding to nine organisations that produce information in alternative communication formats for people who are unable to access printed material. Funding agreements for these organisations have been in force since 2003 and have recently been extended to 30 June 2009. The third is the Information and Captioning Program currently funding two agencies, Nican Incorporated (Nican) and Media Access Australia (MAA). Agreements with both agencies have been in operation since 2003 and are due to expire on 30 June 2009.

Attachment G identifies 63 agencies funded under the National Disability Advocacy Program (NDAP). The activity period and payment period runs from 1 July 2008 to 30 November 2009.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT A

Program Name	Organisation Legal Name	Start Date	End Date
Targeted Support Program	Disability Services Australia Ltd.	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Disability Services Australia Ltd.	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Cumberland Industries Ltd	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Koomarri	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Nambucca Valley Phoenix Arts Collective	1/02/2008	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Multicap Employment Service	1/07/2005	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Marriott Support Services	1/03/2008	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Eurella Community Services	1/03/2008	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Endeavour Foundation	1/07/2008	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Handicapped Childrens Centre New South Wales	1/12/2005	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q)	1/07/2008	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Inala	1/07/2008	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland	1/07/2008	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Delando Corporation Ltd	1/07/2008	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Lorna Hodgkinson Sunshine Home	1/10/2008	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Challenge Disability Services Ltd	1/10/2008	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Coastal Disability Services Ltd	1/02/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Workpower Inc.	26/03/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	St Laurence Community Services Inc	1/04/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	St Laurence Community Services Inc	1/04/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	The Spastic Centre of New South Wales	1/03/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Help Enterprises	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Stawell Intertwine Services Inc	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Intework Midland - BS	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Intework Joondalup - BS	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Intework Stirling - BS	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	The Cerebral Palsy Association of WA Ltd.	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Wallara Australia Ltd	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Kalianna Enterprises Inc	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Ability Options Limited	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Thorndale Foundation Ltd	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Workpower Inc.	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Aware Industries Ltd.	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	G.V. Centre Disability Services	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	The Crowle Foundation Ltd	1/07/2007	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Kyeema Centre	1/07/2005	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Mercy Disability Services	1/07/2005	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Williams Centre Toowoomba	1/07/2005	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Kajewski Centre Toowoomba	1/07/2005	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Keystone	1/07/2005	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Ngaruwanajirri Incorporated	1/07/2005	31/12/2008
Targeted Support Program	Ngawa Martawi	1/07/2005	31/12/2008

Organisations: 42

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT B

Business Services Employment Assistance - Employment Assistance Funding - Organisation Legal Name	Start	End
Ability Options Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Access Industries For The Disabled Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Access Mildura Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Achieve Foundation Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Activ Foundation Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
AQA Victoria Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Ararat & District Disabled Persons Association Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Arts Project Australia Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
ASTERIA Services Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Australian Foundation for Disability	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Australian Red Cross Society - Queensland Division	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect)	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Aware Industries Ltd.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Back To Back Theatre Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Ballarat Regional Industries (Incorporated)	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Ballina Shire Council	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Baptist Community Services - Hunter Contracts	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Barkuna Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Barossa Enterprises Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Bedford Industries Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Bendigo Access Employment Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Bindi Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Blue Mountains Disability Services Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
BlueLine Laundry Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Bourke Laundry Service Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Brunswick Industries Association Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Bundaberg Skills Centre Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Caloola Vocational Services Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Caringa Enterprises Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Centacare Catholic Community Services	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Central Access Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Cerebral Palsy Tasmania	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Challenge Disability Services Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Challenge North Shore Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Challenge Southern Highlands Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Challenge Tweed Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Christie Centre Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Civic Disability Services Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Coastal Disability Services Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Coffs Harbour Challenge Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Colac Adult and Community Education Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Colony 47 Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Cooma Challenge Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Corio Bay Innovators Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Cumberland Industries Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Delando Corporation Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Devonfield Enterprises	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Disability Services Australia Ltd.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Elouera Association Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Endeavour Foundation	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Endeavour Industries Goulburn Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT B

Endeavour Industries Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Eurella Community Service Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Fairhaven Services Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Finding Workable Solutions Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
G.V. Centre Disability Services	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
GDP Industries	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
George Gray Centre Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Gilgandra Shire Council	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Glen Innes Regional Sheltered Workshop	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Glennay Industries Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Good Samaritan Industries	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Greenacres Disability Services	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Gunnedah Workshop Enterprises Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Gwydir Industries Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Hands On SA	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Hastings Foundation Ltd.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Help Enterprises	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Heritage Industries Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Horizon Foundation Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Hoxton Industries Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
HPA Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Hunter Area Health Service - Hunter Joblink	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Illawarra Disability Trust	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Inala	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
integratedliving Australia Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Intellectual Disability Foundation of St George Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Intework Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Ivanhoe-Diamond Valley Centre for Intellectually Disabled Adults	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Jewish Care	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Kalianna Enterprises Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Karakara Hostels	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Karingal Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Karkara Support Services Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Katia Project Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Knoxbrooke Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Koomambi	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Kurrajong Waratah	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Kurri Kurri Community Centre Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Kyeema Centre Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Lambing Flat Enterprises	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Lasercraft Australia Ltd.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Latrobe Valley Enterprises	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Community Programs Association	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Lismore Challenge Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Lorna Hodgkinson Sunshine Home	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Louisa Johnston Training Centre Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Macarthur Disability Services Ltd.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Maah 1 Australia Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Macleay Options Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Mai-Wel Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Mambourin Enterprises Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Mamre Plains Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Marriott Support Services	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Mawarra Centre	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
McCallum Disability Services Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Merriva Industries Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT B

Mid-Western Regional Council	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Millicent Work Option Centre Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Minda Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Miroma	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Mirridong Services Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Monkams Centre Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Mullela Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Multicap	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Murdoch Community Services Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Murray Human Services Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Murray Valley Centre for Intellectually Handicapped Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Nadrasca Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Nambucca Valley Phoenix Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
New Horizons Enterprises Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Ningana Enterprises Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
North East Training and Employment Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
North West Employment Group Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Northaven Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Northern Occupational Support Service Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
NOVA Employment and Training Program Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Noweyung Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Oak Enterprises	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Caldeigh Centre for Intellectually Disabled Citizens	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
OCTEC Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Options Victoria Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Orana Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Oriel Services Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Outlook (Vic) Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Paraplegic & Quadriplegic Association of NSW	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Paraplegic Quadriplegic Association Of WA Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Pathways - Rehabilitation and Support Services Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Peace Lutheran Church Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Peter Harcourt Disability Services Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Phoenix Society Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Plane Tree Studio Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Product Action Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Royal Society for the Blind of South Australia Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Royal Enterprises Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
S. A. Group Enterprises Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Scope (Vic) Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Self Help Workshop Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Shoalhaven Advance Industries Inc NSW	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Silverlea Employment and Training Service Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Colac Community Development Association Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Society of St Vincent De Paul State Council of NSW	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Society of St Vincent De Paul Aged Care and Community Services	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
South Burnett CTC Inc	1/12/2007	30/06/2010
South West Gippsland Moonya ATSS Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Spinal Cord Injuries Australia Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
St John of God Services Victoria	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
St Laurence Community Services Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
St Vincent Industries Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Stawell Intertwine Services Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Sunnyfield Association	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Handicapped Childrens Centre New South Wales	1/07/2007	30/06/2010

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT B

TADPAC Print	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Tastex Knitwear Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Terama Industries Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
The Cerebral Palsy Association of Western Australia Ltd.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
The Corporation of the Trustees of the Order of the Sisters of Mercy in QLD	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
The Crowle Foundation Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
The Flagstaff Group Limited	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
The Gateway Centre Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
The Trustee for The Salvation Army Victoria Property Trust	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
The Spastic Centre of New South Wales	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
The Uniting Church Australia Property Trust (NSW) for Nareen Gardens	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
The Uniting Church In Australia Property Trust (Q.)	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Wesley Mission	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
The Wool Factory Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Thorndale Foundation Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Tulgeen Group	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Valmar Support Services Ltd.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Vantage Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Vatmi Industries	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Victorian Vocational Rehabilitation Association	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Vincent Industries Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Vision Australia	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Wallara Australia Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Wangarang Industries	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Waverley Helpmates Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Waverley Industries Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Wesley Mission Melbourne	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
West Wimmers Health Service	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Westcare Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Western District Employment Access (WDEA)	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Western District Supported Employment Service Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Westgate Community Initiatives Group Inc (WCIG)	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Westhaven Association	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Wheelchair & Disabled Association	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Wheelchair and Disabled Association of Australia	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Windarring Central Highlands Assoc for People with Disabilities	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Windgap Foundation Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Work Integration & Support Employment (WISE) Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Witmore Enterprises Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Woodbine Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Woorinyan Incorporated	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Workpower Inc.	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Yallambee Deniliquin Ltd	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Yooralla Society of Victoria	1/07/2007	30/06/2010
Yumaro Inc	1/07/2007	30/06/2010

Organisations: 210

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT C

Respite for Older Carers of Children with Disability Funding - Organisation Legal Name	Start Date	End Date
Ability Care Limited	13/12/2007	31/10/2010
Action on Disability within Ethnic Communities Inc.	17/12/2007	31/10/2010
Activ Foundation Inc.	17/02/2008	31/10/2010
Aged Care and Housing Group Inc.	3/01/2008	31/10/2010
Anglicare SA Incorporated	17/01/2008	31/10/2010
Anglicare Tasmania Inc.	18/12/2007	31/10/2010
Anglicare Tasmania Inc.	18/12/2007	31/10/2010
annecto Inc.	11/01/2008	31/10/2010
Australian Foundation for Disability	3/01/2008	31/10/2010
Brotherhood of St. Laurence	11/02/2008	31/10/2010
Care Connect Limited	16/01/2008	31/10/2010
Central Coast Alternative Care Group Ltd	17/01/2008	31/10/2010
Civic Disability Services Ltd	3/01/2008	31/10/2010
Community Living and Respite Services Inc.	20/12/2007	31/10/2010
Community Living and Support Service Inc	16/01/2008	31/10/2010
Community Support Incorporated	13/02/2008	31/10/2010
Cootharinga Society of North Queensland	21/01/2008	31/10/2010
Country North Community Services Inc.	21/12/2007	31/10/2010
Creating Links Cooperative Ltd.	7/01/2008	31/10/2010
Disability Attendant Support Service Incorporated	10/01/2008	31/10/2010
Eastern Access Community Health Inc	29/01/2008	31/10/2010
Endeavour Foundation	15/02/2008	31/10/2010
EW Tipping Foundation Inc	17/01/2008	31/10/2010
Family Resource and Network Support Incorporated	17/12/2007	31/10/2010
Flintwood Disability Services Inc.	8/01/2008	31/10/2010
Gateways Support Services Inc	16/01/2008	31/10/2010
Greenacres Disability Services	13/12/2007	31/10/2010
Helping Hand Aged Care Inc	15/02/2008	31/10/2010
Hunter Integrated Care Inc	7/01/2008	31/10/2010
Illawarra Disability Trust	3/01/2008	31/10/2010
Jewish Care (Victoria) Inc	29/01/2008	31/10/2010
Karingal Inc.	16/01/2008	31/10/2010
Kempsey Respite Services Incorporated	21/12/2007	31/10/2010
Koomari	21/12/2007	31/10/2010
Kyeema Centre Inc.	16/01/2008	31/10/2010
Life Without Barriers	11/02/2008	31/10/2009
Lismore Challenge Limited	11/02/2008	31/10/2010
Mandurah Retirement Village Inc	18/01/2008	31/10/2010
Masonic Homes Incorporated	21/12/2007	31/10/2010
McCall Gardens Community Ltd	13/12/2007	31/10/2010
Melbourne Citymission Incorporated	29/01/2008	31/10/2010
Mpower Inc.	7/01/2008	31/10/2010
Multicap	7/01/2008	31/10/2010

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT C

Ningana Enterprises Inc	18/12/2007	31/10/2010
Northern Support Services for people with disabilities Inc	13/12/2007	31/10/2009
Options Victoria Inc	21/12/2007	31/10/2010
Perth Home Care Services, Inc.	25/01/2008	31/10/2010
Presbyterian Church of Queensland T/A PresCare	5/02/2008	31/10/2010
Roman Catholic Church for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn as Trustees of Centacare	18/12/2007	31/10/2008
Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative Ltd	16/01/2008	31/10/2010
Scope (Vic) Ltd	30/01/2008	31/10/2010
Skills Innovative Training Enterprise Incorporated	21/01/2008	31/10/2010
Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre	8/01/2008	31/10/2010
The Corporation of the Synod of the Diocese of Brisbane	17/01/2008	31/10/2010
The Corporation of the Trustees of the Congregation of Sisters of Mercy in Queensland	5/02/2008	31/10/2010
The Corporation of the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane	7/01/2008	31/10/2010
The Ella Community Centre	7/01/2008	31/10/2010
The Junction Works Inc	21/12/2007	31/10/2010
The Lorna Hodgkinson Sunshine Home	21/12/2007	31/10/2010
The Northcott Society	13/12/2007	31/10/2010
The Spastic Centre of NSW	18/12/2007	31/10/2010
The Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church of the Diocese of Broken Bay	3/01/2008	31/10/2010
The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust NSW	21/12/2007	31/10/2010
The Westhaven Association	15/02/2008	31/10/2010
The Wheelchair & Disabled Association of Australia	7/01/2008	31/10/2010
Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church Diocese of Lismore	13/12/2007	31/10/2010
Tweed Valley Respite Service Inc	21/01/2008	31/10/2010
Wesley Mission Melbourne	21/12/2007	31/10/2010
West Kimberley Family Support Association Inc	7/01/2008	31/10/2010

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT D

Program Name	Organisation Legal Name	Start Date	End Date
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Lifeline Community Care	25/01/2008	30/06/2008
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Family Resource and Network Support Inc	25/01/2008	30/06/2008
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Eastern Respite and Recreation	25/01/2008	30/06/2008
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Children's Hospital Child Care Association Inc	25/01/2008	30/06/2008
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Calamvale Special School P & C Association	25/01/2008	30/06/2008
Extra Support for Children with Disability	The Creativity Centre Inc	25/01/2008	30/06/2008
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Minimbah Challenge Inc	25/01/2008	30/06/2008
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Nemarruk School Council Inc	25/01/2008	30/06/2008
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Southern Sydney Therapy Centre	25/01/2008	30/06/2008
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Disability Capability	22/05/2008	30/09/2009
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Greek Orthodox Community of St George Brisbane	23/05/2008	30/09/2008
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Carers NT Incorporated	12/05/2008	31/10/2008
Extra Support for Children with Disability	Parenting Research Centre Inc	16/05/2008	30/04/2009

Organisations: 13

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT E

State	Centre Name	Organisation Legal Name	Respite and Information Services for Young Carers Program AND Respite Support for Carers of Young People with a Severe or Profound Disability Programs		Respite and Information Services for Young Carers Program		Respite Support for Carers of Young People with a Severe or Profound Disability Program	
			Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date
ACT	ACT Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Carers ACT Incorporated	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Cumberland Prospect Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Baptist Community Services - NSW & ACT	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Far West Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Broken Hill City Council	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Orana Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Catholic Healthcare Services Limited	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Hunter Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Hunter New England Area Health Service	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	New England Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Hunter New England Area Health Service	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Illawarra Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Kiama Municipal Council for Southern Councils Group	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Central Coast Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Northern Sydney Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Northside Community Forum	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Central West Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Orange Community Resource Organisation Incorporated	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Southern Highlands Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Queanbeyan City Council	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Riverina Murray Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Regional Social Development Group Inc	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Nepean Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Sydney Anglican Home Mission Society Council	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	South West Sydney Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Sydney Anglican Home Mission Society Council	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	South Eastern Sydney Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	The Benevolent Society	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Far North Coast Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	United Protestant Association of NSW Limited	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Mid North Coast Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	United Protestant Association of NSW Limited	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NSW	Inner West Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (NSW) for Wesley Mission	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NT	Northern Region Carer Respite Centre	Carers NT Incorporated	1/08/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT E

NT	East Arnhem Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	The Synod of the Diocese of the NT Inc.	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
NT	Central Region Carer Respite Centre	Uniting Church in Australia Frontier Services	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
QLD	South Brisbane Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Gold Coast Family Support Group INC	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
QLD	Central Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Suncare Community Services INC	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
QLD	North Brisbane Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Suncare Community Services INC	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
QLD	West Moreton / South Coast Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q)	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
QLD	Darling Downs / South West Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust on behalf of Blue Care	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
QLD	Northern (QLD) Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust on behalf of Blue Care	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
QLD	Parasula Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust on behalf of Blue Care	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
SA	South and East Metropolitan Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Carer Support & Respite Centre Inc.	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
SA	Southern Country Carer Respite Centre	Carers Association of SA Incorporated	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
SA	North and West Country Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	UnitingCare Waskley Adelaide Incorporated	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
SA	North and West Metropolitan Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	UnitingCare Waskley Bowden Incorporated	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
TAS	Southern Tasmania Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Community Based Support South Inc.	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
TAS	North Commonwealth Carer Respite and Carelink Centre	Family Based Care Association (Northern Region) Inc.	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
TAS	North West Commonwealth Carer Respite and Carelink Centre	Family Based Care Association North West Inc.	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
VIC	Grampians Commonwealth Carer Respite Service	Ballarat Health Services	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
VIC	Barwon Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Barwon Health	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
VIC	Southern Metro Commonwealth Carer Respite Service	Bayside Health Service (vic)	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
VIC	Loddon Mallee Region Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Benigo Health Care Group	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
VIC	North West Commonwealth Carer Respite Service	Carers Association Victoria Inc.	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
VIC	Gippsland Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Lalor Community Health Service Inc.	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
VIC	Northern Metropolitan Region Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Moreland Community Health Service Inc.	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
VIC	Eastern Metropolitan Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	UnitingCare Community Options	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2008	1/07/2008	31/10/2011

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT E

VIC	Hume Region Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre	Vita Maria Society for the Blind	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
WA	East Metropolitan Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Australian Red Cross Society	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
WA	Metropolitan South East Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Australian Red Cross Society	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
WA	South West Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre Bunbury	Australian Red Cross Society	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
WA	North Metropolitan (Independent Living Centre)	Independent Living Centre of Western Australia Inc.	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
WA	Goldfields Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Silver Chain Nursing Association Incorporated	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
WA	South West Metropolitan Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Silver Chain Nursing Association Incorporated	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
WA	Great Southern Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Silver Chain Nursing Association Incorporated (Great Southern)	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
WA	Wheatbelt Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	Silver Chain Nursing Association Incorporated (Wheatbelt)	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
WA	Kimberley Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	WA Country Health Service	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
WA	Midwest Commonwealth Carer Respite Service	WA Country Health Service	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
WA	Pilbara Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre	WA Country Health Service	1/09/2005	30/11/2008	1/01/2008	31/10/2009	1/07/2008	31/10/2011
Number of Centres: 55			Number of Organisations: 42					

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT F

Program Name	Organisation Legal Name	Start Date	End Date
National Auslan Interpreter Booking and Payment Service (NABS)	Wesley Mission, Brisbane	31/01/2005	30/06/2010
Print Disability Services Program	Association for the Blind of WA	2/07/2003	30/06/2009
Print Disability Services Program	Canberra Blind Society	2/07/2003	30/06/2009
Print Disability Services Program	CBM Australia	3/07/2003	30/06/2009
Print Disability Services Program	People Learn Productions	1/07/2003	30/06/2009
Print Disability Services Program	Queensland Narrating Service	1/07/2003	30/06/2009
Print Disability Services Program	Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children	7/07/2003	30/06/2009
Print Disability Services Program	Royal Society for the Blind SA	1/07/2003	30/06/2009
Print Disability Services Program	St Edmund's School for the Blind and Vision Impaired	30/07/2003	30/06/2009
Print Disability Services Program	Vision Australia	1/07/2003	30/06/2009
Information and Captioning Program	Nican Incorporated (Nican)	10/06/2003	30/06/2009
Information and Captioning Program	Media Access Australia (MAA)	10/06/2003	30/06/2009

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

ATTACHMENT G

<u>Program Name</u>	<u>Legal Name</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
National Disability Advocacy Program	ACT Disability, Aged & Carer Advocacy Service Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Advocacy for Inclusion Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Ability Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Brain Injury Association of NSW Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Disability Advocacy Network Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Disability Advocacy NSW Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Ibawene Citizen Advocacy Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Intellectual Disability Rights Service	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association of NSW Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Neveil Advocacy Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	People with Disability Australia Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Self Advocacy (Sydney) Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Side by Side Advocacy Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Spinal Cord Injuries Australia	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Sydney Regional Aboriginal Corporation Legal Service	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	The Institute for Family Advocacy and Leadership Development Association Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Darwin Community Legal Service Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Disability Advocacy Service Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	NPY Women's Council	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Independent Advocacy in the Tropics Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	North West Advocacy Organisation Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Queensland Advocacy Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Queensland Parents for People with a Disability Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Rights in Action Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Speaking Up for You Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Sunshine Coast Citizen Advocacy Programme Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	The Brain Injury Network of South Australia Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Citizen Advocacy South Australia Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Disability Advocacy and Complaints Service of South Australia Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Family Advocacy Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Independent Advocacy SA Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	MALSSA Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Advocacy Tasmania Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Citizen Advocacy Launceston Region Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Speak Out Association of Tasmania Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Action for Community Living Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Action for More Independence & Dignity in Accommodation Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Action on Disability within Ethnic Communities Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Association of Employees With Disability Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Citizen Advocacy Inner East	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Citizen Advocacy Sunbury & Districts Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Colac Ohney Region Advocacy Service	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Disability Advocacy & Information Service Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Disability Justice Advocacy Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Disability Rights & Advocacy Service	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Gippsland Citizen Advocacy Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Gippsland Disability Resource Council Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Groampland Disability Advocacy Association Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	North East Citizen Advocacy Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Regional Information and Advocacy Council Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Southern Citizen Advocacy Incorporated	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Southeast Advocacy Association Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Yillamanta Disability Rights Legal Service Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Westport Speaking Out Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Advocacy South West Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Catholic Archdiocese of Perth Personal Advocacy Service	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Citizen Advocacy Perth West (Inc)	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Citizen Advocacy South Metropolitan	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Ethnic Disability Advocacy Centre	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Midland Information, Debt & Legal Advocacy Service Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	People with Disability (WA) Inc	1/07/2008	30/11/2008
National Disability Advocacy Program	Sussex Street Community Law Service	1/07/2008	30/11/2008

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T23

Questions asked by Senator Bernardi on Monday, 2 June 2008

Question: For the Reconnect program, what were the outcomes against the “CALD” (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) KPI, referred to on page 80 of PBS?

Answer: The CALD KPI and target are new in the 2008/09 PBS. We have information on performance for the first half of 2007/08, which indicates that 368 or 14.2% of young people provided with support by Reconnect were from CALD backgrounds.

Question: What are the Reconnect Good Practice Forums Details, where are they held, and who attends?

Answer: Good Practice Forums offer training to service providers on action research to improve service delivery. The forums are based around seven good practice principles:

- Accessibility of Services
- Client Driven Service Delivery
- Holistic Approaches to Service Delivery
- Working Collaboratively
- Culturally and Contextually Appropriate Service Delivery
- Review and Evaluation
- Sustainability

Forums are held in most states and territories annually. In 2007, forums were held in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. In 2008 to date a Good Practice Forum has been held in Sydney. Good Practice Forums are attended by service provider workers and FaHCSIA staff.

Question: What number of families did Reconnect assist in 2007/08?

Answer: We have information on performance for the first half of 2007/08, which indicates that Reconnect assisted 1,791 families in that six months.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T13

Question: Was the data from the paper based AppointWomen transitioned by OfW to the electronic based AppointWomen when it commenced in July 2007?

Answer: Yes, there were over 1100 women registered with AppointWomen prior to the online version being launched. These women were formally asked to update their details and re-register with the online system if they were still interested in being considered for appointments.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T14

Question: What was the cost of String Quartet that played at the Women's Budget Briefing (15 May 08) and is the Department paying for that.

Answer: The cost of the String Quartet that played at the post Women's Budget Briefing was \$320.00. The Quartet was sourced from the Canberra School of Music and the musicians were all students.

This cost was borne by the Department (OfW).

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.5

Question No: 177

Topic: Women on Government Boards

Hansard Page: CA 133 2/6

Senator Bernardi asked

Can you tell me how many women comprised Government Board positions since the Labor Government came in?

Answer:

The report for the 2007/08 financial year is currently being compiled by Office for Women and this information will be available in September 2008.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.5

Question No: 178

Topic: National Council to Reduce Violence Against Women and Children

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Allison asked:

Is there a term of reference for the new national council?

Answer:

The Terms of Reference for the National Council to Reduce Violence Against Women and Children are available at:

http://www.ofw.facs.gov.au/womens_safety_agenda/national_council_reduce_violence.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 2.5

Question No: 281

Topic: Women's Safety Agenda

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Adams asked:

In May 2007, 17 community-based organisations were successful in receiving grants under the Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Initiative. These organisations share in more than \$1.97 million during 2007-08. When will it be decided if this program is to be continued?

Answer:

The National Council to Reduce Violence Against Women and Children will be recommending priorities for national initiatives under the *National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and Children*, and any future grants program will be considered in light of those recommendations.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department
Department of Families,
Housing, Community Services
and Indigenous Affairs

CONSENT FOR THE FRSP ONLINE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION

Your participation in the FRSP Online Data Collection system is very important to us and completely voluntary.

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) and the Attorney-General's Department (AGD) fund different parts of our service.

The information that you provide in the attached form will help the two Departments understand how our services are being used and what value they provide to you as our client.

Details provided by you on the attached form and information collected by our clinical staff on other forms about the services you receive will be maintained by this agency and entered into the FRSP Online Data Collection system administered by FaHCSIA.

When we enter your first name, last name and date of birth into the FRSP Online Data Collection system, it searches for any possible matches to that information. If a match is found then the following further details are displayed, based on information that you have previously supplied, including gender, country of birth, indigenous status, main language, ancestry and year of arrival in Australia. This information assists in determining if you have previously registered with another FRSP service provider and allows us to attach you to our service. No information about the services provided to you by another FRSP service are visible to us.

This agency, FaHCSIA and AGD are legally bound to protect the privacy of your information under the Privacy Act (1988). All staff, including temporary employees are legally bound not to release personal information.

To ensure your privacy, your first and last names, date of birth (if known) and gender will be used to create a Statistical Key in the FRSP Online Data Collection system so that staff do not access your personal information when preparing reports for statistical and evaluation purposes.

Other than entering and storing your personal information into the FRSP Online Data Collection system, this agency will only disclose personal information that identifies you to a third party if we are required or authorised by law to do so (for example, to protect someone from harm).

YOUR INFORMATION WILL BE USED BY FaHCSIA AND AGD FOR STATISTICAL AND EVALUATION PURPOSES ONLY.

NO INFORMATION WILL EVER BE PUBLISHED WHERE YOU COULD BE IDENTIFIED.

I consent to the information provided by me on the attached form being stored by this agency and entered into the FRSP Online Data Collection system,

☐

Consent

Tick one only

☐

Do not consent

I also consent to being contacted by this agency at a later date to participate in follow up, research, or evaluation activities.

☐

Consent

Tick one only

☐

Do not consent

I understand that I can withdraw my consent at any time.

Client Details

Client Activity No.:

☐ Never Married ☐ De Facto Separated ☐ Widowed ☐ Not Stated
☐ Married ☐ Separated but not divorced ☐ Other Relationship
☐ De Facto ☐ Divorced ☐ N/A - person aged under 15 years

 dd/mm/yyyy **Date of Separation** (Must be completed for de facto separated, separated but not divorced and divorced)

☐ Primary
 ☐ Tertiary - Certificate
 ☐ Tertiary - Post Graduate
 ☐ Not Stated

☐ Secondary - Year 10
 ☐ Tertiary - Degree
 ☐ Never Attended School

☐ Secondary - Year 12
 ☐ Tertiary - Diploma
 ☐ N/A Client is under school age

☐ Employed - including self employed
 ☐ Student

☐ Unemployed - actively looking for a job
 ☐ N/A - person aged under 15 years

☐ Not in the labour force (e.g. stay at home parent, volunteer, not looking for a job etc.)
 ☐ Not stated

<input type="checkbox"/> Negative income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250 - \$399	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 - \$1299	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2000+
<input type="checkbox"/> Nil income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$400 - \$599	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1300 - \$1599	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A – person aged under 15 years
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1 - \$149 (Incl. pensions or Centerlink Payments)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$600 - \$799	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1600 - \$2000	<input type="checkbox"/> Not stated
<input type="checkbox"/> \$150 - \$249 (Incl. pensions or Centerlink Payments)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$800 - \$999		

Postcode

☐ Monday ☐ Daytime
☐ Tuesday ☐ Lunchtime
☐ Wednesday ☐ After hours
☐ Thursday ☐ Any combination
☐ Friday

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Client Presenting Details

Client ID: _____

Client Activity No.: _____

Clinical Staff use only (in consultation with client)

Who referred the client to this service: *(tick one box only)*

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self | <input type="checkbox"/> Disability service | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Aid Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carer Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Education service <i>(not school)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Magistrates Court |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Centrelink | <input type="checkbox"/> Employer | <input type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Protection Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Court including post-filing | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support Agency - change of assessment | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Court - referral | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support Agency - general referral | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Court - with an order | <input type="checkbox"/> Other FRSP service provider |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CSA client through Family Relationships Advice Line (FRAL) - general referral | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Relationships Advice Line | <input type="checkbox"/> Other family relationships service <i>(not funded under the FRSP)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CSA client through Family Relationships Advice Line (FRAL) - change of assessment | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Relationship Centre | <input type="checkbox"/> Police |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Celebrant | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Relationships Online | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Legal Practitioner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy | <input type="checkbox"/> Family/Friend/Neighbour | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional at this service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Legal Centre | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Magistrates Court with an order | <input type="checkbox"/> Respite Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community organisation | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Magistrates Court referral | <input type="checkbox"/> School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective services | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial counsellor | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow/White Pages |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Court Counter Officer pre-filing, non-certificate | <input type="checkbox"/> Gambling service | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence service | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Practitioner | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug/alcohol service | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing service | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet | |

What are the client's family membership living arrangements: *(tick one box only)*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives alone | <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in an 'other' family
e.g. with siblings, grandparents or extended family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in a relationship (without children) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lives with other members of the community
e.g. shared house |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in a relationship (with children) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in other special accommodation
e.g. Nursing home, hostel etc |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in a sole parent family with children (adult client only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Transient living arrangements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in a two parent family (child client only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in accommodation for the
homeless/emergency accom. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in a one parent family (child client only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Not stated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Separated under same roof (without children) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Separated under same roof (with children) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/s and adult living separately | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/s and adult dependent children | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/s and adult non-dependent children | |

What is the main relationship this client has with others attached to this activity: *(tick one box only)*

Example 1: Mum, Dad and two children are attending the centre - Each child will have 'Child' ticked on the form, the dad will have 'Father' ticked and the mum will have 'Mother' ticked

Example 2: Mum and her new partner, Dad and his new partner and two children from the first relationship are attending the centre - Each child will have 'Child' ticked on the form, the dad will have 'Father' ticked and the mum will have 'Mother' ticked. Each of the new partners will have 'Step father' and 'Step mother' ticked respectively.

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self | <input type="checkbox"/> Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> Step mother | <input type="checkbox"/> Aunt | <input type="checkbox"/> School counsellor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partner | <input type="checkbox"/> Sister | <input type="checkbox"/> Foster parent | <input type="checkbox"/> Cousin | <input type="checkbox"/> Not stated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse | <input type="checkbox"/> Brother | <input type="checkbox"/> Grand father | <input type="checkbox"/> Niece | <input type="checkbox"/> No association (course) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ex-partner | <input type="checkbox"/> Child | <input type="checkbox"/> Grand mother | <input type="checkbox"/> Nephew | |

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Client Presenting Details Continued

Client ID: _____

Client Activity No.: _____

Clinical Staff use only

What are the presenting needs of the client: *(tick as many boxes as required)*

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Children</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Parents</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Separation of parents</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Step parents</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grandparents</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Siblings</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> School</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bullying</p> | <p>Health/Addictions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Issues</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Diagnosed Mental illness</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Depression</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Anxiety</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stress</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Eating related difficulties</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Self-harm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Suicidality</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Drug/alcohol/substance abuse</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gambling</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Disability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Physical Health</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Carer's</p> | <p>Violence/abuse</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Family violence</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Childhood sexual abuse</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Childhood physical/emotion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Childhood neglect</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adult sexual abuse</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adult physical/emotional ab</p> |
| <p>Relationship</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-marriage</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Establishing a relationship</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Enhancing a relationship</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Dealing with relationship difficulties</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Relationship breakdown</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Re-partnering</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Conflict</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Family formation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Family maintenance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Family separation</p> | <p>Legal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Property</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child Support Payments</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Breach of post separation parenting agreements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Criminal charges and/or conviction</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Aggravated (Apprehended) Violence Order (AVO)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Restraining Order</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other Legal Issues</p> | <p>Other</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Financial difficulty</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Communication issues</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Accommodation difficulties</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grief/Loss</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trauma</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Employment issues</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Isolation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Refugee</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Migrant</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Cultural</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Marginalisation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fly in/Fly out</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> |
| <p>Parenting</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Parenting</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Post separation parenting</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Step parenting</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grandparenting</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Succession Planning - care of adult child with severe disability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child protection issues</p> | | |

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Client Consent

The services provided by this organisation are funded or partially funded by the Commonwealth Government under the Family Relationships Service Program.

The information you provide on this form will be forwarded to the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and the Attorney-General's Department for statistical and service evaluation purposes only.

If you have given your written consent below and are referred to another organisation funded under the Family Relationships Services Program we can arrange for the information provided on this form to be transferred to them to save you filling out another form.

We will protect your privacy and will only disclose personal information if you give permission or if we are required or authorised by law, for example, to protect someone from harm.

Consent for Client Details to be transferred

I _____
(print your name)

☐ Consent
☐ Do not consent

(tick one box only)

That if I am referred to other organisations funded under the Family Relationships Services Program, information contained on this form be transferred to them.

Signature

Date

Consent to be contacted by this organisation at a later date

I _____
(print your name)

☐ Consent
☐ Do not consent

(tick one box only)

To be contacted by this organisation at a later date to participate in follow up, research or evaluation activities.

Signature

Date

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Client Registration Details

Client ID: _____

Client Code: _____

The information you provide in the box below will be used to create a unique code for you. **ONLY THE UNIQUE CODE** will be used in statistical and evaluation processes conducted by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and the Attorney-General's Department.

Your First Name: _____ Your Last Name: _____

Your Mother's Maiden Name: (last name) _____

Your Full Date of Birth:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

dd/mm/yyyy

Or Your Age: _____

if date of birth unknown

Today's Date:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

dd/mm/yyyy

Gender: (tick one box only)

☐ Male ☐ Female

Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin: (tick one box only)

☐ No ☐ Aboriginal ☐ Torres Strait Islander ☐ Both

What country were you born in: (tick one box only)

☐ Australia ☐ New Zealand ☐ Vietnam ☐ Greece
☐ England ☐ Italy ☐ Scotland ☐ Other

if 'Other' country, please specify here

What is your ancestry (nationality), if other than Australian: (tick one box only)

☐ English ☐ Italian ☐ Chinese ☐ Greek
☐ Irish ☐ German ☐ Scottish ☐ Other

if 'Other' ancestry (nationality), please specify here

If you were not born in Australia, in what year did you arrive:

--	--	--	--

yyy

What is the main language you speak at home: (tick one box only)

☐ English only ☐ Greek ☐ Arabic ☐ Mandarin
☐ Italian ☐ Cantonese ☐ Vietnamese ☐ Other

if 'Other' language, please specify here

If the main language you speak at home is NOT English, please rate your ability to speak English: (tick one box only)

☐ Very Well ☐ Well ☐ Not Well ☐ Not at all

Client Details

Client Activity No.:

☐ Never Married ☐ De Facto Separated ☐ Widowed
☐ Married ☐ Separated but not divorced ☐ Other Relationship
☐ De Facto ☐ Divorced ☐ N/A = person aged under 15 years

Date of Separation (Must be completed for de facto separated, separated but not divorced and divorced)

☐ Primary
 ☐ Tertiary - Certificate
 ☐ Tertiary - Post Graduate
 ☐ Not Stated
☐ Secondary - Year 10
 ☐ Tertiary - Degree
 ☐ Never Attended School
☐ Secondary - Year 12
 ☐ Tertiary - Diploma
 ☐ N/A Client is under school age

☐ Employed - including self employed
☐ Unemployed - actively looking for a job
☐ Not in the labour force (e.g. stay at home parent, volunteer, not looking for a job etc.)

☐ Student
☐ N/A - person aged under 15 years
☐ Not stated

<input type="checkbox"/> Negative income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250 - \$399	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 - \$1299	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2000+
<input type="checkbox"/> Nil income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$400 - \$599	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1300 - \$1599	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A - person aged under 15 years
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1 - \$149 (incl. pensions or Centrelink payments)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$600 - \$799	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1600 - \$2000	<input type="checkbox"/> Not stated
<input type="checkbox"/> \$150 - \$249 (incl. pensions or Centrelink payments)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$800 - \$999		

Postcode

OPTIONAL

Synopsis

Business hours phone

After 60 days storage

Mobile phone

Practitioner preference:

Practitioner gender preference:

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Either

Confidentiality needs:

Interpreter Required:

☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ None
☐ Leave no message
☐ Do not ring work
☐ Do not ring home
☐ Do not reveal agency contact
☐ Contact details are confidential
☐ Okay to send mail

Disability needs:

☐ Intellectual
☐ Physical
☐ Wheelchair
☐ Sensory
☐ Other

Time and day preferences:

☐ Monday ☐ Daytime
☐ Tuesday ☐ Lunchtime
☐ Wednesday ☐ After hours
☐ Thursday ☐ Any combination
☐ Friday

OPTIONAL

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Client Presenting Details

Client ID: _____

Client Activity No.: _____

Clinical Staff use only (in consultation with client)

Who referred the client to this service: (tick one box only)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self | <input type="checkbox"/> Disability service | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Aid Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carer Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Education service (not school) | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Magistrates Court |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Centrelink | <input type="checkbox"/> Employer | <input type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Protection Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Court (including post-filing) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support Agency (change of assessment) | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Court (referral) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support Agency (general referral) | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Court (with an order) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other FRSP service provider |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CSA client through Family Relationships Advice Line (FRAL) (general referral) | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Relationships Advice Line | <input type="checkbox"/> Other family relationships service (not funded under the FRSP) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CSA client through Family Relationships Advice Line (FRAL) (change of assessment) | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Relationship Centre | <input type="checkbox"/> Police |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Celebrant | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Relationships Online | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Legal Practitioner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy | <input type="checkbox"/> Family/Friend/Neighbour | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional at this service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Legal Centre | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Magistrates Court (with an order) | <input type="checkbox"/> Respite Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community organisation | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Magistrates Court (referral) | <input type="checkbox"/> School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrective services | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial counsellor | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow/White Pages |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Court Counter Officer (pre-filing, non-ord scale) | <input type="checkbox"/> Gambling service | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence service | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Practitioner | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug/alcohol service | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing service | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet | |

What are the client's family membership living arrangements: (tick one box only)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives alone | <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in an 'other' family
e.g. with siblings, grandparents or extended family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in a relationship (without children) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lives with other members of the community
e.g. shared house |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in a relationship (with children) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in other special accommodation
e.g. Nursing home, hostel etc. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in a sole parent family with children (adult client only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Transient living arrangements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in a two parent family (child client only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in accommodation for the homeless/emergency accom. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lives in a one parent family (child client only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Not stated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Separated under same roof (without children) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Separated under same roof (with children) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/s and adult living separately | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/s and adult dependent children | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/s and adult non-dependent children | |

What is the main relationship this client has with others attached to this activity: (tick one box only)

Example 1: Mum, Dad and two children are attending the centre - Each child will have 'Child' ticked on the form, the dad will have 'Father' ticked and the mum will have 'Mother' ticked

Example 2: Mum and her new partner, Dad and his new partner and two children from the first relationship are attending the centre - Each child will have 'Child' ticked on the form, the dad will have 'Father' ticked and the mum will have 'Mother' ticked. Each of the new partners will have 'Step father' and 'Step mother' ticked respectively.

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self | <input type="checkbox"/> Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> Step mother | <input type="checkbox"/> Aunt | <input type="checkbox"/> School counsellor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partner | <input type="checkbox"/> Sister | <input type="checkbox"/> Foster parent | <input type="checkbox"/> Cousin | <input type="checkbox"/> Not stated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse | <input type="checkbox"/> Brother | <input type="checkbox"/> Grand father | <input type="checkbox"/> Niece | <input type="checkbox"/> No association (course) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ex-partner | <input type="checkbox"/> Child | <input type="checkbox"/> Grand mother | <input type="checkbox"/> Nephew | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Father | <input type="checkbox"/> Step father | <input type="checkbox"/> Uncle | <input type="checkbox"/> School teacher | |

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Client Presenting Details Continued

Client ID: _____

Client Activity No.: _____

Clinical Staff use only

What are the presenting needs of the client: *(tick as many boxes as required)*

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| Children
<input type="checkbox"/> Parents
<input type="checkbox"/> Separation of parents
<input type="checkbox"/> Step parents
<input type="checkbox"/> Grandparents
<input type="checkbox"/> Siblings
<input type="checkbox"/> School
<input type="checkbox"/> Bullying

Relationship
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-marriage
<input type="checkbox"/> Establishing a relationship
<input type="checkbox"/> Enhancing a relationship
<input type="checkbox"/> Dealing with relationship difficulties
<input type="checkbox"/> Relationship breakdown
<input type="checkbox"/> Re-partnering
<input type="checkbox"/> Conflict
<input type="checkbox"/> Family formation
<input type="checkbox"/> Family maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Family separation

Parenting
<input type="checkbox"/> Parenting
<input type="checkbox"/> Post separation parenting
<input type="checkbox"/> Step parenting
<input type="checkbox"/> Grandparenting
<input type="checkbox"/> Succession Planning - care of adult child with severe disability
<input type="checkbox"/> Child protection issues | Health/Addictions
<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Diagnosed Mental illness
<input type="checkbox"/> Depression
<input type="checkbox"/> Anxiety
<input type="checkbox"/> Stress
<input type="checkbox"/> Eating related difficulties
<input type="checkbox"/> Self-harm
<input type="checkbox"/> Suicidality
<input type="checkbox"/> Drug/alcohol/substance abuse
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambling
<input type="checkbox"/> Disability
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Health
<input type="checkbox"/> Carer's

Legal
<input type="checkbox"/> Property
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Support Payments
<input type="checkbox"/> Breach of post separation parenting agreements
<input type="checkbox"/> Criminal charges and/or conviction
<input type="checkbox"/> Aggravated (apprehended) Violence Order (AVO)
<input type="checkbox"/> Restraining Order
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Legal Issues | Violence/abuse
<input type="checkbox"/> Family violence
<input type="checkbox"/> Childhood sexual abuse
<input type="checkbox"/> Childhood physical/emotional abuse
<input type="checkbox"/> Childhood neglect
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult sexual abuse
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult physical/emotional abuse

Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial difficulty
<input type="checkbox"/> Communication issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Accommodation difficulties
<input type="checkbox"/> Grief/Loss
<input type="checkbox"/> Trauma
<input type="checkbox"/> Employment issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness
<input type="checkbox"/> Isolation
<input type="checkbox"/> Refugee
<input type="checkbox"/> Migrant
<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural
<input type="checkbox"/> Marginalisation
<input type="checkbox"/> Fly in/Fly out
<input type="checkbox"/> Other |
|---|--|---|

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T17

Note: the complete document was tabled in the Senate on 24.06.08 and has not been included in the electronic/printed volume



Draft Privacy Impact Assessment

on

FRSP Online

For: Department of Family and Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

1 February 2008

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T18 Note: the complete document was tabled in the Senate on 24.06.08 and has not been included in the electronic/printed volume



Deacons

FRSP Online

Privacy impact assessment

Adrian D'Amico
Partner
Deacons
Level 5, AMP Building
1 Hobart Place
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Tel: +61 (0)2 6272 0400
www.deacons.com.au
Our ref: 2640983

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Summary of Recommendations from the Privacy Impact Assessments of FRSP Online and the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs proposed responses.

Deacons

Consent Forms (Deacons Recommendations 2, 6 and 7)

The Deacons legal assessment followed on from the Department's own legal assessment of compliance with the privacy principles. The Deacons assessment found the FRSP Online system compliant with the privacy principles with the exception of the consent form, which required some modifications.

Deacons have subsequently made drafting amendments to the consent form to ensure it meets the privacy principles which is attached for your information.

The revised version of the consent form will be adopted effective as of 1 July 2008. A subsequent review of the consent form will be undertaken over the next 3-6 months through the FRSA Working Group on Data Quality and Performance Monitoring. Any subsequent preferred changes will also be undertaken in consultation with Deacons to ensure on-going compliance.

Deed of Confidentiality (Deacons Recommendation I)

Deacons re-developed the deed of confidentiality form. While public sector staff are already covered under the Public Service Act, this deed would need to be deployed as an employment practice across all FRSA agencies and their collaborative partners. A draft deed of confidentiality, drafted by Deacons, is attached for your information and will be discussed as part of the Working Group's considerations.

Audit of Service providers (Deacons Recommendations 3 and 4)

The Deacons report proposes a more rigorous assessment of FRSP service provider's data systems and compliance with the IPPs and NPPs, as they relate to FRSP online together with random audits of practices. As service providers are aware one of the existing 15 approval requirements relates to data collection practices.

The Department's preferred position is to:

Review likely compliance with the standard proposed by Deacons and IIS via the current Australian Healthcare Associates, audit of the approval requirements; strengthen the approval requirement, as required, in consultation with the sector; and conduct further audits following the end of the AHA audit period in 2010.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Monitoring of User Access to Records (Deacons Recommendation 5)

The FRSP Online system already monitors changes to data via an audit log but does not currently monitor viewing activities by service provider data users.

The department proposes it seek the advice the sector around its current practices as well as seeking advice from the Department's Information, Communications and Technology (ICT) group as to how it might initiate a system response to this recommendation.

IIS

The IIS report identified some better practice options for the design and operation of FRSP Online that has the potential to impact on both the Department and service providers administration of data. The IIS recommendations are more wide ranging by nature and require closer examination by both the Department and the sector. These recommendations will be referred to the Data Quality and Performance Management Working Group for consideration and prioritisation. It is not expected that all the recommendations will be adopted. While some recommendations are categorised as important to the Department others are of a lower priority and high cost. The Department will not be supporting those options.

Unique Identifier (IIS Recommendations 1, 3 and 5)

The Department will be discussing with the sector, through the working group, the potential for adoption of the SAAP unique identifier key to replace the current linkage key identified system.

Consent Forms (IIS Recommendation 2)

This recommendation is similar to Deacons Recommendations 2, 6 and 7 and will be considered together.

Security systems (Recommendation 4)

This is similar to Deacons Recommendations 3 and 4 and will be considered together. Departmental audits are already considered to be in place but the Department will discuss with the sector.

Consultation Mechanism (Recommendation 6)

A consultation mechanism has already been established in the FRSA Quality and Performance Measurement Working Group to discuss this and other performance and data issues. E-news forums have also been established with the sector. Other sub recommendations will be canvassed in the Working Group.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Privacy Framework for future FRSP online developments (Recommendation 7)

The Department considers it conducts its systems development within the context of privacy frameworks, as indicated by its processes to date and high level of compliance with the NPPs. The Department will continue to apply this framework and engage the sector in future developments of FRSP online.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 120

Topic: Playgroups for Indigenous Families

Hansard Page: CA5 3/6

Senator Adams asked:

Under labour policy \$17.5m was to be provided for this initiative but in the budget the amount is \$16.6m.

Are these two amounts for the same initiative and why has the actual amount in the budget fallen \$900k short of the pledged amount in the Labour policy document.

Are they the same commitment, has it been funded in the budget and, if it has, why is there a difference?

Answer:

Senator Adams is referring the ALP election commitment to implement new *Early Learning and Development Services – Parenting Support for Indigenous families* announced as part of the *New Directions – An Equal Start in Life for Indigenous Children* initiative.

The \$17.5 million originally committed was calculated under two components, firstly \$16.6 million under administered funding as well as \$900,000 under departmental funding. Following Cabinet decision, departmental funding absorbed, hence the commitment was reduced to \$16.6 million. The commitment is funded under Additional Estimates.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 1.1, 3.1

Question No: 121

Topic: Playgroups for Indigenous Families

Hansard Page: CA9 3/6

Senator Adams asked:

In 2007/08 budget \$13.8m was allocated over a 4 year period to expand playgroups for indigenous families to benefit 6100 children. This funding does not appear to be continued in the 2008/09 budget. There appears to be only \$700k for playgroups in the NT to benefit 190 children. Why is there such a big change??

Answer:

The Senator is referring to two discrete initiatives. Firstly, under the 2007-08 Expansion of Playgroups for Indigenous Families (EPIF) budget initiative, \$13.8m was allocated (under the Parenting Appropriation – Output 3.1) over four years to:

- Provide additional funding to nine existing Intensive Support Playgroups delivering services to Indigenous families;
- Establish six new Intensive Support Playgroups for Indigenous families; and
- Establish 30 Locational Supported Playgroups for Indigenous families.

This funding is continuing in 2008-09 and through to 2010-11, but because it was a 2007-08 budget initiative, is not included in 2008-09 Budget Papers.

Secondly, under the Northern Territory Emergency Response (Output 1.1), additional funding was provided to implement two Intensive Support Playgroups and three Locational Supported Playgroups for Indigenous families in the Northern Territory. Two Intensive Support Playgroups have been implemented in 2007-08, one in Katherine and the other in Tennant Creek. There is \$729,000 available in 2008-09 to provide a further 12 months funding for these two playgroups, and to implement the three Locational Supported Playgroups in Numbulwar, Milingimbi and Yuendumu.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 162

Topic: Funding of St Giles Society Inc

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Abetz asked:

I refer to the article which appeared in the Examiner Newspaper (Launceston Tasmania) dated Wednesday April 30, 2008. (Attached). How long have the Federally funded pathologists and psychologists been at the St Giles institute? How much Federal Government funding has expended on the two pathologists and the psychologists referred to in the article at the St Giles institution?

When was notice given to the St Giles institution that funding would not continue for these positions? Why was the decision taken to stop funding these positions?

Has the Federal Government done anything to see what services might be available to assist the children at St Giles in the wake of the departure of these staff? (Please list services, if any, that are being extended.) Are these services, if any, being subsidised by the Federal Government?

Answer:

Funding of \$1,243,134 (GST exclusive) has been provided under the Invest to Grow Program to the St Giles Society Inc for *The Vital Early Years Therapy and Family Support Program*. This funding was for the period 2004-05 to 2007-08. The amount provided included the cost of salaries for two speech pathologists and a psychologist.

The Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs has approved extension of funding of \$341,932 (GST exclusive) for one year to 30 June 2009 for *The Vital Early Years Therapy and Family Support Program*. The service has been advised accordingly. The additional funding will allow St Giles to continue to offer uninterrupted assistance to disadvantaged families while the Government considers the future of programs and funding arrangements in line with its priorities.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 179

Topic: Family Relationship Centres

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Please provide the number of and value of contracts awarded to consortia since the program commenced?

Answer:

- 51 consortia have been selected to provide FRSP services since the program commenced.
- The total value of all Funding Agreements that involve the delivery of services by consortia is \$220,589,489.27. This covers the funding period 2005-2011.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 180

Topic: Family Relationship Centres

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Will the statement in the funding application that changes to consortia require departmental approval be removed as the department takes no action in response to such notification?

Answer:

No. Where such a notification is made, the department can:

- assess whether there is a material change to the service delivery model, and the capacity of the 'lead' agency to fulfil its contractual obligations over the current funding agreement period; and
- assess the impact on service delivery to ensure that clients still receive a comparable quality service.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1 Support for Families

Question No: 181

Topic: Family Relationship Centres

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

What advice will be given to the sector in relation to the status of consortia or partnerships?

Answer:

Advice on consortia and partnership arrangements under the FRSP will be provided to the sector following the Minister's consideration of this matter.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1 Support for Families

Question No: 182

Topic: Family Relationship Centres

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Has any support, training or sector development been offered to funded organisations to support consortia and partnerships? Will it be in future?

Answer:

No training or sector development has been offered to funded organisations to support consortia and partnerships, at this point in time. Support for this type of development activity will be considered along side other sector capacity building priorities.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 183

Topic: National Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

I understand that \$2.6 million was committed in the budget to developing a National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children, and that a discussion paper on the framework will be released shortly – is this correct?

Answer:

Yes, the Government committed \$2.6 million over three years to develop a national framework for protecting Australia's children. On 25 May 2008, the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, the Hon Jenny Macklin MP released a discussion paper *Australia's children: safe and well: A national framework for protecting Australia's children* as the basis of consultations to support development of the framework.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 184

Topic: National Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

What is the timeline for this framework? When is it expected to be in operation?

Answer:

A discussion paper for consultation on the National Child Protection Framework was released by the Minister for Housing, Families and Community Services on 25 May 2008.

'Australia's children: safe and well—a national framework for protecting Australia's children' proposes key themes and possible options for inclusion in the framework.

The public was invited to comment on the discussion paper. The closing date for submissions was 30 June 2008. Targeted consultations to develop the framework are occurring in June and July with State and Territory Government officials and community sector representatives in each jurisdiction, community sector expert committees, and other groups experienced with child protection systems such as foster carers, grandparents and kinship carers.

Ongoing development of the framework will continue for the remainder of 2008.

At its meeting on 3 July 2008, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) noted the work underway on a National Child Protection Framework to improve child protection outcomes and agreed that it would be considered at the December 2008 COAG meeting.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 185

Topic: National Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Is it anticipated that this framework will apply equally to Aboriginal children in the Northern Territory?

Answer:

The Australian Government is working closely with all State and Territory Governments and the community sector to develop the national framework. Existing initiatives are informing the shape of the framework including the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) review. Improving responses to Indigenous children is a key focus area of the framework.

Continued work in the Northern Territory (NT) will also be informed by the NTER review. The NTER Review Board will examine evidence and assess the overall progress of the NTER in improving safety and wellbeing of children and laying the basis for a sustainable and better future for residents of remote communities in the NT. It will also consider what is and isn't working in the NTER and whether the current suite of NTER measures will deliver the intended result and identify any unintended consequences. In relation to each NTER measure, the Review Board will make an assessment of its effects to date and recommend any changes to improve each measure and monitor performance.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 186

Topic: National Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Is it expected that child protection measures within the NT will be consistent with this framework? When?

Answer:

The Northern Territory Emergency Response review available later this year will inform further child protection work in the Northern Territory (NT), and also inform the national child protection framework. Consultations across the Australian Government, with State and Territory Governments, the community sector, and the public are informing the development of the national child protection framework.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 187

Topic: National Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

As I understand it, the framework will focus on preventing child abuse through early intervention together with better integration of family services – is this correct?

Answer:

The discussion paper, *Australia's children: safe and well: A national framework for protecting Australia's children*, was released by the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, on 25 May 2008. It explores the need for an increased focus on early intervention and better integration of services.

The discussion paper is the basis for consultation with State and Territory Governments and the community sector. It is anticipated the framework will include these matters.

At its meeting on 3 July 2008, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed that governments would continue to work together to enhance coordination at the local level to improve prevention and early intervention for families and children at risk. COAG has also asked that the Community and Disability Services Ministers' Conference report back in October 2008 about how to improve information sharing about families and children at risk, across governments (at all levels) and non-government organisations, to better protect children.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 188

Topic: National Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Is there any intention to begin to incorporate elements of this preventative and integrated approach in the NT before the national framework is completed or in the near future?

Answer:

The National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children is being developed by the Australian Government in close consultation with State and Territory Governments and the community sector.

At its meeting on 3 July 2008, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed that governments would continue to work together to enhance coordination at the local level to improve prevention and early intervention for families and children at risk.

COAG has also asked the Community and Disability Services Ministers to:

1. report back in October 2008 about how to improve information sharing about families and children at risk, across governments (at all levels) and non-government organisations, to better protect children.
2. provide the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children to COAG in December 2008 for their consideration.

On 6 June 2008 Minister Macklin announced the Terms of Reference, and membership of the Board to undertake an independent review of the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER).

The NTER Review Board will examine evidence and assess the overall progress of the NTER in improving safety and wellbeing of children and laying the basis for a sustainable and better future for residents of remote communities in the Northern Territory (NT).

The outcomes of the NTER Review will inform the development of the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 189

Topic: National Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Is there any intention to move towards a more collaborative and community-based approach to child protection in the NT before the national framework is completed or in the near future?

Answer:

The *Little Children Are Sacred* report made it clear that the situation in the Northern Territory is at crisis levels. The Government response in Indigenous communities is being conducted via a relationship of mutual respect between Indigenous people and the Government.

To this end, 54 Government Business Managers (GBM's) have been appointed to service the 73 prescribed communities under the Northern Territory Emergency Response. A key role of GBM's is to provide a central point of contact, and to work cooperatively with communities, organisations and the Northern Territory Government to achieve positive outcomes.

The Northern Territory Emergency Response is being reviewed by an independent Review Board which will inform future work and ways of working related to this emergency response. The findings of the review will inform the development of a national framework for protecting Australia's children – which is to be considered by COAG in December 2008.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 190

Topic: Family Assistance

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Are Family Assistance benefits, including Family Tax Benefit A and B, the Child Care Tax Rebate and the Child Care Benefit, indexed annually?

If so, for those payments that are indexed, what is the rate of indexation?

Answer:

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs is not responsible for the Child Care Tax Rebate and the Child Care Benefit.

The payment rates, thresholds and associated limits for Family Tax Benefit (FTB) Parts A and B are indexed in line with increases in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) on 1 July 2008.

FTB Part A rates for children aged under 16 years are also benchmarked to the Combined Pensioner Couple (CPC) Age Pension rate. If the CPC benchmark is the higher amount, the FTB Part A under 16 rates are increased to that amount.

The Baby Bonus was increased to \$5000.00 on 1 July 2008. It will be indexed annually on 1 July from 1 July 2009, in line with the CPI.

Maternity Immunisation Allowance is indexed bi-annually on 20 March and 20 September, in line with the CPI.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 191

Topic: Family Assistance

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

For those payments that are indexed, will they be indexed this year?
If so from what date?

Answer:

Yes, except for the Baby Bonus which will be increased by more than the Consumer Price Index to \$5000.00.

Dates are as specified in Question on Notice 190.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 195

Topic: FRSP Online

Hansard Page: CA106 3/6

Senator Siewert asked:

Could you tell me how much each of the reviews of FRSP Online cost?

Answer:

The Deacons Privacy Impact Assessment of the FRSP Online data collection application and processes cost \$40,320.00.

The better practice report by Integrated Information Solutions cost \$35,417.00.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 196

Topic: FRSP Online

Hansard Page: CA 108 3/6

Senator Siewert asked:

How much was the total cost to date, to develop and implement?

Answer:

The total cost to develop and implement the FRSP Online system from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2008 was \$1,908,616.21.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 197

Topic: Secondary Income earners on zero income in FTB B families

Hansard Page: CA110, & 111 3/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

How many families get FTB B and the secondary earner does not have a single dollar of income?

Answer:

As at 25 April 2008, there were 217,800 couple families eligible for FTB B where the secondary earner estimated their 2007-08 adjusted taxable income to be nil.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 200

Topic: Stronger Families and Communities Strategy Evaluation

Hansard Page: CA129 3/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

What components of the evaluation by Social Policy Research Centre have been released?

Answer:

The Stronger Families and Communities Strategy (SFCS) is being evaluated in two separate segments.

All the publicly released reports are on the FaHCSIA website or are linked to it.

The first SFCS was evaluated by RMIT University.

The following reports are on the RMIT University website and can be accessed by www.fahcsia.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/aboutfacs/programs/sfsc-sfcs_evaluation_update.htm or www.rmit.edu.au/casr/researchreports

1. SFCS (2000-2004) Evaluation: Final Report.
2. Occasional Paper 19, Lessons Learnt about Strengthening Indigenous Families and Communities: What's Working and What's Not? This was also released as a Fahcsia Occasional Paper and can be found at:
www.fahcsia.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/research/ops-ops19.htm
3. Early Intervention and Early Childhood Initiatives.
4. Networks and partnerships.
5. Community capacity building.
6. Early intervention particularly in early childhood.
7. Sustainability and legacy.
8. Service integration and coordination.
9. Economic and social participation.
10. Evidence-based policy and practice.
11. Gilles Plains Community Garden.
12. Mandurah Targeted Region.
13. Hervey Bay Indigenous Community Leadership Project.
14. Stronger Families Fund initiative.
15. Sustainability and legacy of projects.
16. Potential Leaders in Local Communities initiative.
17. Qualitative cost-benefit analysis.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

The second Stronger Families and Communities Strategy 2004-2008 is being evaluated by a consortium headed by the Social Policy Research Centre (at the University of New South Wales) and the Australian Institute of Family Studies. The final report for this evaluation is due to be provided to the Department in December 2008.

Some Papers have been released, previously

- National Evaluation Framework of the SFCS 2004-2008
- National Evaluation Program Logic – both available on www.fahcsia.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/aboutfacs/programs/sfsc-sfcs_evaluation_update.htm
- SFCS National Evaluation Baseline Report on Communities for Children Process Evaluation – available on both www.fahcsia.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/aboutfacs/programs/sfsc-sfcs_evaluation_update.htm and www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/reports/index.htm

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 228

Topic: Number of FTB B Customers receiving maximum rate of payment

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Of the families receiving FTB B, how many receive the maximum rate?

Answer:

As at 25 April 2008, there were 916,074 families in receipt of fortnightly payments of FTB Part B at the maximum rate. This payment rate is based on the family's estimated adjusted taxable income.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 229

Topic: Number of FTB B Customers receiving basic rate of payment

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Of the families receiving FTB B, how many receive the maximum basic rate?

Answer:

Unlike FTB A, there is no basic rate of FTB B. FTB B is paid at the maximum rate or the broken rate. The answers to questions 228 and 230 provide figures for both rates.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 230

Topic: Number of FTB B Customers receiving broken rate of payment

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Of the families receiving FTB B, how many receive broken rate?

Answer:

As at 25 April 2008, there were 440,673 families in receipt of fortnightly payments of FTB Part B at the broken rate. This payment is based on the family's estimated adjusted taxable income.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 231

Topic: Average Family Income of FTB B customers

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

What is the average actual taxable income of families receiving FTB B?

Answer:

As at 25 April 2008, the average combined estimated adjusted taxable income (customer and partner) of Family Tax Benefit (FTB) B eligible families was \$44,478 per year.

Actual adjusted taxable incomes can only be ascertained after the majority of the total population has reconciled their FTB payments. This takes a minimum of 1 year and preferable 2 years.

As at 29 June 2007, the average actual annual adjusted taxable income of families who were paid FTB B for some or all of the financial year 2004-05 was \$38,701.00.

This figure does not capture customers who claim through the ATO and are not subject to subsequent reconciliation.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 232

Topic: Baby Bonus

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

The Baby Bonus is limited to 'families' who have an adjustable taxable income of less than \$150,000 pa. Will a single mother be eligible for the bonus, if the legitimate father earns above this amount?

Answer:

A single mother will be assessed on the basis of her own income.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 233

Topic: Baby Bonus

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

If the baby bonus is paid and upon the end of the six months the family earns above the threshold, what measures are in place for the family to repay the bonus?

Answer:

People claiming the Baby Bonus will be required to provide their best estimate of family income at the time of claim. Families may be asked to produce supporting evidence for their estimate.

There will be no reconciliation of the Baby Bonus using actual income at the end of the six months.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 234

Topic: Baby Bonus

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Will the family be required to pay back the bonus in a 'Lump Sum' or in the fortnightly instalments as they were paid?

Answer:

Families will not be required to pay back the Baby Bonus as a result of changes in their income in the six months following birth.

Baby Bonus debts may be raised where it is established that a customer did not have entitlement to all or part of the Baby Bonus. This may occur if the person is not residentially qualified or is not caring for a child.

Centrelink's usual debt recovery practices apply in these cases and repayment arrangements generally depend on the person's financial circumstances.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 235

Topic: National Child Protection Framework Consultations

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

What community sectors have been invited to participate in this agreement?

Answer:

Representatives from key health and welfare organisations in the community sector, which provide services to vulnerable children, young people and families on the ground across Australia, as well as many key researchers, have been invited to participate in consultations on the development of a national child protection framework.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 236

Topic: National Child Protection Framework Consultations

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

What are the qualifications for the community sectors to participate in this framework?

Answer:

The health and welfare sector organisations invited to participate in consultations for the development of a national child protection framework were those with the relevant expertise through providing services to vulnerable children, young people and families on the ground across Australia, as well as many key researchers in the area of child protection, which were able to bring the necessary breadth and depth of knowledge and experience of the issues to the table.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 237

Topic: National Child Protection Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Will the implementation of the Child Protection pilot in Western Australia take place prior to a framework being established?

Answer:

The Child Protection pilot is due to commence in July/August 2008. The National Framework for Child Protection is expected to be finalised at the end of 2008.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 240

Topic: National Child Protection Framework Consultations

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

What is the deadline for the agreement of the framework between the government, state and territory governments and community sectors?

Answer:

Community and Disability Services Ministers have been asked to provide the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children to COAG in December 2008.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 238

Topic: National Child Protection Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Will the \$345,000 be administered directly to the Department for Child Protection Western Australia?

Answer:

No, administered funding of \$345,000 in 2008-09 has been appropriated to the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs for the implementation of the Child Protection Measure in Western Australia.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 239

Topic: National Child Protection Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Will the administration of the Pilot require additional FaHCSIA staff?

Answer:

Yes. FaHCSIA has been allocated funds for an additional 1.4 ASL in 2007/08 and 5.5 ASL in 2008/09 for the implementation of the Child Protection pilot.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 241

Topic: National Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

When will the national child protection data collection commence?

Answer:

Child protection data is currently collected across jurisdictions by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for publications such as the annual *Child Protection Australia*, and by the Productivity Commission for its major annual *Report on Government Services*.

Options as to what further information is required to be collected is being explored as part of the development and implementation of the framework.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 242

Topic: National Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Will the National Child Protection Clearinghouse be responsible for the collection of this data?

Answer:

Child protection data is currently collected across jurisdictions by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare for publications such as the annual *Child Protection Australia*, and by the Productivity Commission for its major annual *Report on Government Services*.

Some funding from the National Child Protection Framework allocation may be used to further develop data collection. Options are being explored as part of the development and implementation of the framework.

As no decisions have been made regarding any future directions for data collection it would be premature to decide on which agency may be responsible for the collection.

At its meeting of 3 July 2008, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) welcomed the role of the National Child Protection Clearinghouse in disseminating best practice nationally.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 243

Topic: Child Protection measure

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

What will the \$14.4 million from FaHCSIA in 2008/09 fund in this project? Can a break down of spending be provided?

Answer:

Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs costs for the Child Protection measure in 2008-09 consist of;

- \$13.233 million provided to Centrelink for the service delivery of income management in the selected areas of Western Australia; and
- \$1.136 million to FaHCSIA to implement the initiative, including staffing.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 245

Topic: Child Protection measure

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

How will the effectiveness of the pilot programs be measured? and how much will effectiveness measurement programs cost?

Answer:

Evaluation of the early implementation of the Child Protection measure in WA will be undertaken to inform the future national roll out of this measure. Funding of \$300,000 has been allocated for this evaluation process.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 246

Topic: Child Protection Measure

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Will Child Welfare authorities that recommend that parents' welfare be managed by Centrelink be required to provide any supporting evidence for this to occur

Answer:

The Western Australian Department for Child Protection and the Commonwealth will agree to a process for the selection of parents that may benefit from the application of income management. The Western Australian Department for Child Protection will then refer parents as per the requirements of this agreement.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 247

Topic: Income Management

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Will the Income Management Debit Card cause hardship for some small businesses that may be unable to accept it?

Answer:

The Income Management Card (IMC) will make it easier for businesses to sell priority needs items to customers subject to income management. Once businesses are approved they will only require an EFTPOS machine to receive the funds. It is expected the IMC will broaden the range of approved businesses able to participate in the income management regime.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 248

Topic: Income Management

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

Have you had any indication as yet of how many businesses have accepted the terms of using the card? Are you able to provide a list of the names and locations of businesses in WA that have accepted the terms?

Answer:

Merchant engagement will commence from mid to late July in the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 249

Topic: Income Management

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

What department is in charge of overseeing the child protection and school attendance pilots, FaHCSIA, DEEWR or the Department of Human Services?

Answer:

FaHCSIA is responsible for the overall co-ordination of measures associated with Welfare Payments Reform. DEEWR is responsible for the Improving School Enrolment and Attendance through Welfare Reform measure and FaHCSIA has the Child Protection measure.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 250

Topic: Income Management

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

What consequences will there be to a person that misuses funds from their Income Management Debit Card?

Answer:

Misuse of the Income Management Card (IMC) will be controlled via the merchants. Merchants will be required to sign an agreement that they will comply with the terms and conditions for being an approved merchant and that, where relevant, they will ensure that appropriate systems, processes and training are in place to prevent the sale of excluded goods and services on the IMC. A review and compliance framework has been established to ensure approved businesses comply with the agreed terms and conditions.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 251

Topic: Income Management

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bernardi asked:

What will happen to a business that supplies substances not permitted on the Income Debit Management Card?

Answer:

Merchants will be required to sign an agreement that they will comply with the terms and conditions for being an approved merchant and that, where relevant, they will ensure that appropriate systems, processes and training are in place to prevent the sale of excluded goods and services, such as alcohol, tobacco, gambling or pornography products, on the IMC.

A compliance regime has been developed to ensure that merchants adhere to the requirements and conditions of the Merchant Approval Framework. This involves a random review of approved merchants to ensure compliance with the agreed terms and conditions. Merchants found to be in major breach of conditions by compliance checks will be removed as approved merchants.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 199

Topic: Parent Appropriation- Funding Agreements

Hansard Page: CA 127 3/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

Could you please provide a list of the 228 funding agreements under the parenting appropriation per state?

Answer:

In answer to the above request; there are currently 191 funding agreements under the Parenting Appropriation. These funding agreements are listed at Attachment A. The figure of 228 funding agreements was an estimated figure provided by former Branch Manager Children and Parenting Support, Gregory Andrews. The actual figure is 191.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Attachment A

Playgroup Program

ACT

- ACT Playgroups Association Inc

Qld

- Playgroup Queensland
- Playgroup Australia
- Playgroup Australia Additional Funding
- Save the Children Australia, QLD Division (4 agreements)
- Cooktown District Community Centre
- Aboriginal and islander Development and recreation Womens association Mt Isa district

South Australia

- Playgroup SA Inc
- Centacare (The Bilby Bus)
- Minya Bunhii inc

NSW

- Playgroup NSW Inc
- Kids Activity Centre (The Big Red Bus)
- Eurobodalla Family Support Service Inc
- UnitingCare Burnside
- Mallee Family Care

NT

- Playgroup Association of NT Inc
- Tangentyere Council

Tas

- Playgroup Tasmania Inc

Vic

- Playgroup Victoria Inc
- Playgroup Victoria & City of Greater Dandenong
- Mildura Aboriginal Corporation

WA

- Playgroup WA Inc
- Resource Unit for Children with Special Needs INC (RUSCN) & YMCA Newman
- Western Australian Deaf Society Inc
- Communicare Inc

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Responding Early Assisting Children (REACH) Program under the child abuse prevention (CAP) SUB appropriation

ACT

- Belconnen Community Service Inc Good Beginnings Volunteer Home Visiting Service

Qld

- George Street Neighbourhood Centre Association Inc
- Nambour Community Centre
- Northern Peninsula Area Women's Shelter ATSI Corporation NPA Intensive Family Support Program
- Playgroup Association of Queensland Sing and Grow
- Save the Children Fund (Qld Division) Mobile PlayScheme
- Sisters Inside Inc Programs to Enable the Empowerment of Kids (PEEK)

SA

- Anglican Community Care Inc Flying Start
- Centre for Rural and Regional Development, University of South Australia, Whyalla Campus The Rural and Remote Early Intervention Project
- District Council of Victor Harbour (Alexandrina Council) Fleurieu Families Home Visiting Program
- Unitingcare Wesley Port Adelaide Takikurtinna Wiltarnendi - Families Becoming Stronger

NSW

- Byron Shire Council CARE Parent Support Program
- Good Beginnings Australia Inner Western Sydney Home Visiting and Parenting Project
- KU Children's Services Murrubin Family Program and Wingecarribee Family Program
- Lower Mountains Family Support Service Family Links Project
- Shoalhaven Division of General Practice Young Parents Early Intervention Parenting Program
- The Regional Social Development Group Inc Parenting Programs
- Tresillian Family Care Centres Home Visiting Intervention Program
- Unitingcare Burnside - Macarthur Family Services The Family Centre's Access Program
- Coffs Harbour Aboriginal Family Community Care Centre

NT

- Good Beginnings Australia Katherine Volunteer Visiting and Parenting Project
- YWCA of Darwin Palmerston and Rural Parenting Support Services

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Tas

- Anglicare Devonport •
- Good Beginnings Australia Hobart Volunteer Home Visiting and Parenting Project

Vic

- Baptist Community Care (Abercare Family Services) Abercare Home Start
- Goulburn Valley Family Care Inc Parent – Child day stay
- The Queen Elizabeth Centre Parenting Plus

WA

- Agencies for South West Accommodation Inc Parents Plus
- Unitingcare West Moflynn (formerly Uniting Church of Australia Property Group T/A Moflynn)

Responding Early Assisting Children (REACH) Program under the Services for Families With Children (SFWC) SUB appropriation

ACT

- Barnardos Australia -Canberra Centre Kids Friends Program

NSW

- Anglicare Youth and Family Services Goulburn Early Intervention Parenting Program
- Centacare Catholic Family Services Brocken Bay, Waitara
- Kemblawarra Child and Family Care Centre

Vic

- Anglicare Victoria: Anglicare Broadmeadows Family Services
- Child and Family Care Network The Helping Hand Program
- Connections Child Youth and Family Services Working Together Program
- Malvern Special Needs Playgroup
- Mirabel Foundation: Families in Crisis Program

WA

- Wanslea Family Services

Indigenous Children Program

ACT

- Marymead

NSW

- MacKillop Rural Community Services
- Gurehlgam Aboriginal Corporation
- Newcastle Family Support Service (NFSS) - Koti Bula
- Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation
- Yoorana Gunyah, Forbes

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

NT

- Council of Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services (CAAPS)
- Galiwinku Community Council Incorporated, Elcho Island
- Tangentyere Council Incorporated, Alice Springs

Qld

- Creche and Kindergarten Association of Queensland
- Kalwun Aboriginal and Islander Gold Coast AICCA
- Koobara Kindy Inc Koobara Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Kindergarten
- Kummara Association Incorporated
- Murri and Torres Strait Islander Network Yabagar, Woodridge
- Townsville Aboriginal and Islander Health Service (TAIHS AICCA and Childcare Agency)

SA

- Aboriginal Family Support Services (AFSS)
- Karpandi Women's and Children's Centre, Baptist Community Services
- Murray Bridge Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol council

Tas

- Circular Head Aboriginal Corp (CHAC)

Vic

- Mildura Aboriginal Corporation
- Northern District Community Health
- Quantum Support Service, Morewell
- Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative
- Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency Cooperative Limited (VACCA)

WA

- Djooraminda, Centacare Inc, Perth
- Koorlangah Mia Waminda Aboriginal Corporation, Armadale
- Nganganawili Aboriginal Corporation
- Pat Giles Centre, Indigenous Play Groups
- Shire of Yalgoo
- Yorganop Child Care Aboriginal Corporation

Invest To Grow program

National projects

- Core of Life
- Good Beginnings Australia
- Playgroup Assoc of Qld
- Royal Institute for Deaf & Blind Children
- AIFS- National Protection Clearing house (2 agreements)
- National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN)

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

- Raising Children Network
- Alliance for Forgotten Australians
- Secretariat for National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC)
- Australian Childhood Foundation
- Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY)
- AIFS – Communities and families clearing house
- Parenting Research Centre

NSW

- Autism Spectrum Australia
- Benevolent Society
- KU Children's Services
- Kurrajong Waratah
- Macquarie Research Ltd

WA

- Assoc for Services to Torture and Trauma Survivors

Vic

- Children's Protection Society
- Key Centre for Women's Health in Society

Qld

- Lifeline Community Care
- Phoenix House

NT

- NPY Women's Council Aboriginal Corporation
- School for Social & Policy Research Charles Darwin Uni
- SDN children services

Tas

- St Giles Society

SA

- Lady Gowrie Child Centre Inc

Child Care Links under Invest to Grow Program

ACT

- Tuggeranong – Communities @ Work

Qld

- Caboolture – Creche and Kindergarten Association of Queensland Inc
- North Burnett – Mundubbera Community Development Association Inc
- Yarrabah – Gurriny Yealmucka Health Services Aboriginal Corporation

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

NSW

- Riverwood, Sydney – SDN Riverwood Child Care Connections Project
- Cabonne / Blayney – Cabonne Family Links Project
- Penrith, Sydney – Children's Services Connecting Communities Project
- Brunswick – Melbourne City Mission North West – (Harnett House)

Tas

- The Cottage Child Care Centre Child Care Links project, Huonville, Huon Valley Children's Services, Huon Valley Council

SA

- Athol Park Child Care Links – Uniting Care Wesley Bowden
- Coober Pedy Child Care Links – District Council of Coober Pedy
- Davoren Park Child Care Links – Anglicare SA
- Family Links Nth – City of Playford Council
- Fleurieu Families Family Links – District Council of Alexandrina
- Family Links West – Uniting Care Wesley Port Adelaide
- Port Lincoln Child Care Links – Toybox Children's Centre
- Child Care Links East – City of Burnside

WA

- Port Hedland – Rose Nowers Child Care Centre
- Wanneroo / North Perth – Ngala Incorporated

Communities for Children Program

ACT

- Northside Community Service Inc

NSW

- YWCA NSW (2 agreements)
- Mission Australia (5 agreements)
- The Smith Family
- The Benevolent Society (2 agreements)
- Centacare Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes
- The Smith Family / The Family Action Centre consortium
- Barnados Australia

NT

- Australian Red Cross Northern Territory Division
- Synod of the Diocese of the Northern Territory Incorporated (Anglicare NT)
- The Smith Family / Good Beginnings consortium

Qld

- Lifeline
- BoysTown
- Gladstone Area Promotion and Development Ltd

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

- The Salvation Army (Queensland) Property Trust as part of The Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory
- Mission Australia (2 agreements)
- Centacare-Townsville-Mount Isa-Bowen
- Smith Family / Good Beginnings consortium

SA

- UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide
- Anglicare SA Inc. / UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide consortium
- UnitingCare Wesley Port Pirie
- The Salvation Army (South Australia) Property Trust
- Anglican Community Care Inc

Tas

- Anglicare Tasmania
- Centacare Tasmania
- The Salvation Army (Tasmania)

Vic

- Kilmany UnitingCare
- St Luke's Anglicare
- Broadmeadows Uniting Care / Dianella Community Health Inc / Orana Family Services consortium
- The Smith Family / ISIS Primary Care consortium
- Mission Australia / City of Greater Dandenong consortium
- Anglicare Victoria
- St Luke's Anglicare / Mallee Family Care consortium
- Windermere Child & Family Services Inc

WA

- The Smith Family (2 agreements)
- Save the Children Australia / Lingiari Foundation Inc. consortium
- Communicare (Inc.) Pilbara Area Consultative Committee
- Great Southern Division of General Practice Ltd

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 198

Topic: FTB Part B

Hansard Page: CA111 3/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

What percentage of claimants currently claim FTB Part B through Medicare/Centrelink?

Answer:

Claims are made for Family Tax Benefit (FTB) rather than for FTB Part A and FTB Part B. For this reason, it is not possible to provide a breakdown of the percentage of claimants who currently claim FTB Part B through Medicare Australia and Centrelink.

Data is available on the agency which assesses the FTB claim, not where the FTB claim form is submitted. In the 2007-2008 financial year, approximately 74 per cent of new FTB claims lodged with Centrelink and Medicare Australia (including online claims) were processed by Centrelink and approximately 26 per cent were processed by Medicare Australia.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.1

Question No: 244

Topic: National Framework

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

As I understand it, the framework is also intended to be a partnership between all levels of government, child protection workers and the community sector – is this correct?

Answer:

The Framework is being developed with the State and Territory governments and in consultation with the community sector. It will be considered by COAG at its meeting in December.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008



Australian Government
Department of Families, Housing,
Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

Mr Elton Humphery
Secretary
Community Affairs Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



PO Box 7576 Canberra Business Centre
ACT 2610
Telephone 1300 653 227
TTY 1800 260 402
Facsimile
E-mail
www.fahcsia.gov.au

Dear Mr Humphery

I am writing to clarify a response I provided to Senator the Hon Cory Bernardi during the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs hearing of Tuesday 3 June 2008.

At that hearing, I advised that in 2006-07 there were 247,000 children in respect of whom Maternity Immunisation Allowance (MIA) had been paid and that it was estimated that 38,500 had a valid immunisation exemption reason, including 2,500 children of conscientious objectors (Hansard CA131 to CA132).

The figures provided in relation to valid immunisation exemptions and conscientious objectors were based on forward estimates for the 2006-07 financial year. I have recently become aware that these estimates are inaccurate.

Centrelink is not able to provide this Department with data on the number of immunisation exemptions or conscientious objections from its administrative records. Data on these matters needs to be obtained from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR) which is administered by Medicare Australia.

ACIR holds records on the immunisation of children until the age of seven. In August 2008, Medicare Australia advised this Department that the current number of children whose record on ACIR includes a conscientious objection is 45,391. This is about 2.2% of the total. Further details on conscientious objectors and immunisation exemptions should be obtained from the Department of Health and Ageing or Medicare Australia.

I apologise for not providing this clarification earlier but this matter has only recently been brought to my attention. I understand that you will be able to distribute this clarification to the members of the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Mark Warburton
Acting Group Manager
Families Group
(02) 6212 9777

26 September 2008

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.2

Question No: 202

Topic: Child Support Scheme Reforms – Communication to MPs/Senators

Hansard Page: CA142 3/6

Senator Siewert asked:

Will the Minister allow the department to brief Members/Senators about the changes to the Child Support Legislation?

Answer:

Yes. On 19 March 2008 all Members of Parliament and Senators were invited to attend an information session at Parliament House, delivered by staff from the Department of Human Services, the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) and the Child Support Agency (CSA).

A number of Members of Parliament and Senators subsequently requested further briefings about the reforms, which were provided by FaHCSIA and CSA staff during June 2008.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

T20

Loss of Rent Assistance associated with changes to income definitions

Senator Boswell asked how many people will lose Rent Assistance due to the Budget measures to change the definition of income for tax and transfer payments.

As indicated to the Committee people receive Rent Assistance as part of their Family Tax Benefit or as part their primary income support payment.

12,700 families are estimated to lose all of their Family Tax Benefit (including any Rent Assistance). However, few of these families would receive Rent Assistance. Most would be high income families obtaining the base rate of Family Tax Benefit. People receiving the base rate of Family Tax Benefit do not receive Rent Assistance.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.1

Question No: 205

Topic: Housing Affordability Fund

Hansard Page: CA28 2/6

Senator Colbeck asked:

What was the third criteria that will be targeted?

Answer:

Eligible applicants for funding under the Housing Affordability Fund will be local governments, Local Government Associations and state and territory governments. It is proposed that each application for funding must meet the following minimum mandatory criteria to receive funding from the Housing Affordability Fund:

1. the proposal must comply with state, territory and local government strategic planning objectives and policies, including affordability targets (if they exist) and sequencing priorities;
2. local and state governments must be able to fund any future liabilities arising from the funding or reform agreed to without reliance on the Australian Government;
3. the proposal must include details of consortia or partnerships.

In addition the following criteria are proposed:

1. value for money - measured by the size and feasibility of cost savings that will be passed on to home purchasers (by virtue of direct funding and the impact of reform);
2. adoption of leading practice models in respect of planning and/or Development Application processes, which result in a time saving for developers and a quantifiable cost saving to the home purchaser;
3. savings to homebuyers will pertain to new, moderately priced homes (rather than homes at prices suitable for higher income earners);
4. the amount of any additional savings attracted from voluntary state, territory and/or local government financial contributions or in-kind assistance (eg stamp duty or rates reduction), if any;
5. accessibility and environmentally sustainable outcomes (ie, eco-friendly features that are not required by law; design features that improve dwelling accessibility).

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.1

Question No: 207

Topic: Housing assistance

Hansard Page: CA36 2/6

Senator Siewert asked:

What are the different types of housing assistance the Commonwealth and State Government provide including all types of support for indigenous housing and the budget allocations for each program?

Answer:

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has recently released a report on Housing assistance in Australia. That report provides details of Commonwealth and State government housing assistance, including support for indigenous housing and the budget allocations for each program. The report can be found at

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/hou/haia/haia.pdf>

Information on Commonwealth Government programs is provided in Budget papers and on the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) website at <http://www.fahcsia.gov.au>.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.1

Question No: 208

Topic: Institutional Investors in the Residential and Property Market

Hansard Page: CA44 2/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

Who and how many institutional investors operate within the residential rental and property market (specialist funds)?

Answer:

FaHCSIA is not in a position to identify the exact number of institutional investors because of different trust and fund structures and movements within the market.

Research has consistently shown a lack of institutional investment in the residential housing market. The ABS 1997 Household Investors Report states that 82% of landlords were individual or couples, 11.5% were individuals with a relative, 2.9% of landlords were principals in a trust or company. (1997 Survey)

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.1

Question No: 209

Topic: Level of engagement and communication between departments

Hansard Page: CA48 and CA50 2/6

Senator Payne asked:

In relation to dealing with housing and skilled migration issues, can you advise me about the level of engagement and communication mechanisms between your department and other departments like Employment and Immigration?

Answer:

Engagement between the departments has taken place through the Inter Departmental Committee (IDC) on Skill and Labour Shortages, chaired by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC).

DIAC invites departmental representatives from Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA), Centrelink, Treasury, Department of Finance and Deregulation, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Human Services, Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Attorney-General's Department to attend the IDC on Skills and Labour Shortages as part of their annual assessment process.

FaHCSIA officers have also engaged with officers of DIAC on the issue of housing needs of immigrants, particularly refugees.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.1

Question No: 211

Topic: Homelessness

Hansard Page: CA52 2/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

How many homelessness people are there in Australia and broadly in each state?

Answer:

According to the latest estimate by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in “Counting the Homeless 2001”, ABS Cat 2050.0, the numbers of homeless people on any one night in Australia and in each state and territory are as follows:

NSW	26,676
Vic	20,305
Qld	24,569
SA	7,586
WA	11,697
Tas	2,415
NT	5,423
ACT	1,229
Australia	99,900

An ABS update of the estimate of the number of homeless people in Census 2006 will be available later this year.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.1

Question No: 206

Topic: Housing Affordability Fund

Hansard Page: CA29 2/6

Senator Payne asked:

Could you provide a copy of the consultation paper which is expected to be released in two weeks?

Answer:

Please find attached a copy of the Housing Affordability Fund Consultation Paper.

Note: the attachment was tabled in the Senate on 04.09.08 and has not been included in the electronic/printed volume. The Housing Affordability Fund Consultation paper may be accessed at this link:

[http://www.facsia.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/vIA/housing/\\$file/haf_consultation_paper.pdf](http://www.facsia.gov.au/internet/facsinternet.nsf/vIA/housing/$file/haf_consultation_paper.pdf)

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 3.2

Question No: 201

Topic: Child Support Legislation

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

What proportion of the assessment under the new formula resulted in the amount of child support being decreased? What proportion of the assessment resulted in the amount of child support being increased? For those assessments that resulted in a decreased child support payment, what was the average size of the decrease?

Answer:

On 7 August 2008 the Department released the *Report on the population impact of the new child support formula*.

Based on new child support assessments, and taking into account the likely impact on Family Tax Benefit on those who are also in the child support system, 49% of receiving parents experience a net loss.

37% of receiving parents experience a net gain.

In all other cases there is no change.

It is not possible to readily determine the average size of the decrease from the information FaHCSIA currently has available. However as the report stated 72% of cases where a decrease occurred the impact is \$20 a week or less, with 55% of these experiencing a change of \$10 a week or less.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.2

Question No: 212

Topic: Commonwealth Financial Counselling Program

Hansard Page: CA144 3/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

Could you please provide the percentage of departmental and administrative costs associated with this program?

Answer:

Commonwealth Financial Counselling is part of the broader Supporting Financial Management Program, of which departmental policy and program management administration makes up around 10.6% of the total funding.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.2

Question No: 213

Topic: Commonwealth Financial Counselling Program

Hansard Page: CA144 3/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

What information is gathered to determine whether organisations have met their contractual obligations so as to receive further funding?

Answer:

Commonwealth Financial Counselling (CFC) organisations provide half-yearly reports (including service delivery details, an overview of demand/case complexity, information on issues relating to particularly vulnerable/disadvantaged people and aggregated client data); an end of year report (which confirms the organisation's financial position and compliance with its funding agreement) and an audited financial acquittal report.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.2

Question No: 214

Topic: Commonwealth Financial Counselling Program

Hansard Page: CA145 3/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

How many clients have these financial counsellors dealt with over the year?

Answer:

In 2006-07, Commonwealth Financial Counselling (CFC) organisations provided financial counselling to approximately 11,850 casework clients.

In the period 1 July 2007-31 December 2007 CFC (General) organisations provided financial counselling to around 6,500 casework clients and delivered more than 260 community education sessions to over 1,700 people. Full year data for 2007-08 is not yet available.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.2

Question No: 215

Topic: Commonwealth Financial Counselling Program

Hansard Page: CA145 3/6

Senator Bernardi asked:

Is this an Election promise?

Answer:

No [answered by Senator Evans during the Senate Estimates Hearing — CA 150]

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.2

Question No: 252

Topic: Commonwealth Financial Counselling Program

Hansard Page: written

Senator Bernardi asked:

The Government will provide \$20 million over four years in this measure, an increase in \$10 million over four years. Was any research conducted or any evidence obtained to justify this increase for Commonwealth Funded Counselling? How was this figure decided upon?

Answer:

Evidence of the need for increased funding for Commonwealth Financial Counselling was drawn from various sources including reports from existing Commonwealth Financial Counselling services, peak organisations such as the Australian Financial Counselling and Credit Reform Association (AFCCRA) and state financial counselling associations, discussions with state and territory government funding bodies and information on financial stress released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.4

Question No: 204

Topic: Homelessness

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Boyce asked:

- a) In the Innovation and Investment Fund line – p99 – there is no money allocated for this year – is the Fund finalised? Has it done what it was meant to do? According to details on the FaHCSIA website the Fund will have \$125m over 5 years – which this year is the third year – can you explain to me where that money is – is it in a different fund or a different line in the accounts?
- b) I understand that the Innovation and Investment Fund was to look at pilot programs and research projects to look at homelessness – is that the case?

Answer:

- a) Yes the Fund is finalised. The Fund has met its objectives. The Innovation and Investment Fund (Bill 1) consisted of \$1 million dollars for national priorities split over 2006-07 and 2007-08. This funding has contributed to the Data and Program Evaluation (DPE) Fund which enables national data and evaluation activities as required under section 12 of the Supported Accommodation Assistance Act 1994.

The Innovation and Investment Fund (Bill 2) funding of \$10,845,000 for 2008-09, the third year, is shown on p99 at the line titled ‘Innovation and Investment Fund SPP B2’.

- b) Yes

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2008-09 Budget Estimates, June 2008

Output Group: 4.4

Question No: 216

Topic: Interaction with Social Inclusion Unit

Hansard Page: CA149 3/6

Senator Boyce asked:

There is the Social Inclusion Unit within PM&C that has a minister-that is the Deputy Prime Minister- that has a parliamentary secretary in the Senate and appears to function out of DEEWR to a large extent. Given the purpose of the community engagement, how are you interacting with the Social Inclusion Unit et cetera?

Answer:

The Social Inclusion Unit has been established in PM&C to promote the government's social inclusion agenda across the whole of government. Along with other agencies, FaHCSIA works closely with the Unit to support the Government's commitments in this area.