

Senate Community Affairs References Committee

DESIGN, SCOPE, COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS, CONTRACTS AWARDED AND IMPLEMENTATION ASSOCIATED WITH THE BETTER MANAGEMENT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE SYSTEM INITIATIVE

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ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Retaining pay-slips

Question reference number: QoN 96

Member: SIEWERT

Type of question: Hansard page 12

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 May 2017

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: Can I confirm something, because I do not think we have checked this before. On the retention of documents—payslips et cetera—is it true that your previous advice was that people keep them for six months?

Mr McNamara: I would have to take that on notice. I am not too sure.

Senator SIEWERT: That is what has been reported. That is what we have seen reported publicly and also have been told by others.

Mr McNamara: I am not aware what our previous advice on that was, so I would have to take that on notice.

Answer:

The Department's website previously included a statement that suggested customers retain payslips for at least six months. This was provided as a guide only and not a part of any legislative or policy requirement.

When this was drawn to the Department's attention and deemed to be potentially confusing, it was removed.