

**Senate Finance and Public Administration
References Committee
Inquiry into CPD – Alice Springs (28 August 2017)
Questions on Notice**

Questions from Hansard

Question No.	Asked by	Question
1.	Senator Siewert (p. 26 of <i>Hansard</i>)	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Regarding the case study of the 39-year-old lady who was subjected to domestic violence and went through the whole process of having to go to the AAT, has there been an outcome there yet? At the time that you wrote the submission, she was still waiting.</p> <p>Ms Balmer: To go where, sorry?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It's on page 13. She was found non-eligible for DSP and went through the process, and the tribunal member found that the medical evidence showed that it was comprehensive and that she should have been eligible. At the time of the writing of the submission, she was still awaiting a decision from Centrelink to grant DSP or appeal the AAT decision.</p> <p>Ms Balmer: I couldn't confirm that, I'm sorry. I'd have to follow that up.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Would you mind taking that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Balmer: Sure, I will.</p>

Yes this has been resolved, we successfully appealed to the AAT and the client has been granted the disability support pension.

A concern now is that the SA government has defunded the Welfare Rights Centre SA, a specialist community legal service with whom we worked closely to support numerous clients with Centrelink debts and issues. Whilst they have funded another service to take on this role, it is not at the same level and it appears that the outreach WRCSA did on the Lands will not continue. This is a real loss given the reliance of Anangu on income support payments and the complexity of the Centrelink system. We have made representations to the SA AG's dept who have responded but it doesn't seem that the previous level of support will be restored.