

## **Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee**

### **ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 26 FEBRUARY 2015 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **Department of Human Services**

**Topic:** Social Workers

**Question reference number:** HS 37

**Senator:** Cameron

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 17 April 2015

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

I refer to HS 35 from previous estimates and note that social workers delivered 77,557 face to face appointments in 2013-14 and received 30,251 referrals from Centrelink call queues.

- a) Given the Government's 2014-15 budget measures which cause further distress to those people on the DSP and Newstart has the Department seen an increase in social worker referrals from 1 July 2014?
- b) If so, will the Department seek to increase the social worker staffing level?

#### **Answer:**

- a) No, there has been no increase in social worker referrals from 1 July 2014 to 28 February 2015 compared to the same period from 2013-14.
- b) Not applicable.