

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programmes Question No: SQ16-000202

Topic: Legislation

Hansard page: 19 and 22

Senator Carol Brown asked:

In respect of the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Family Payments Structural Reform and Participation Measures) Bill 2015, can you provide

a) Timing of when drafting instructions were issues and when approval was given in terms of policy intent?

b) Can you provide the date the department was advised of the cabinet decisions on those pieces of legislation?

c) Can you provide the date each piece of legislation was sent to Cabinet?

i) Social Services Legislation Amendment (Family Payments Structural Reform and Participation Measures) Bill 2015

ii) Pensioner Education Supplement and the Education Entry Payment,

iii) the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Fair and Sustainable Pensions) Bill 2015

iv) Social Services Legislation Amendment (Family Payments Structural Reform and Participation Measures) Bill (No.2) 2015

v) Social Services Legislation Amendment (Budget Repair) Bill 2015

Answer:

a) In relation to the sole measure remaining in the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Family Payments Structural Reform and Participation Measures) Bill 2015 when it was passed, drafting instructions were issued on 10 November 2015, with the Government also approving the policy in November 2015.

b) and c):

i) Social Services Legislation Amendment (Family Payments Structural Reform and Participation Measures) Bill 2015 – the Government approved the policy in November 2015 and the Department was advised of the agreement shortly afterwards.

ii) Pensioner Education Supplement and Education Entry Payment – in relation to the most recent introduction of these measures in the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Budget Repair) Bill 2015, the Government approved the policy in November 2015 and the Department was advised of the agreement shortly afterwards.

iii) Social Services Legislation Amendment (Fair and Sustainable Pensions) Bill 2015 – the Government approved the policy in June 2015 and the Department was advised of the agreement shortly afterwards.

iv) Social Services Legislation Amendment (Family Payments Structural Reform and Participation Measures) Bill (No. 2) 2015 – the Government approved the policy in November 2015 and the Department was advised of the agreement shortly afterwards.

v) Social Services Legislation Amendment (Budget Repair) Bill 2015 – the Government approved the policy in November 2015 and the Department was advised of the agreement shortly afterwards.