

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000064

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Tobacco Plain Packaging Act

Type of Question: Hansard Page 89, 1 March 2017

Senator: Watt, Murray

Question:

infringement has been corrected?

Dr Southern: Looking at the numbers, they do not match, so it is not 135 warning letters and then 135 reinspections, although it is a very similar number, so I will just have to double-check for you what the grounds would be for not doing a reinspection in those circumstances.

Senator WATT: Yes, could you take on notice why there was not a reinspection for those 11.

Dr Southern: Yes, certainly. I would have to say that in most cases, and in compliance frameworks, people, if prompted to, become compliant quite quickly.

Senator WATT: On those 135 warning letters: how many different entities were sent them? Were there 20 to one entity? I use the word 'entity' because it can capture retailers, tobacco manufacturers—a wide range of people. How many different entities are we talking about?

Dr Southern: I think again I would have to take that on notice.

Answer:

129 separate entities have been sent warning letters. Six entities were sent a second warning letter.

The number of reinspections does not match up with the number of warning letters issued as these cases are ongoing, and a re-inspection had not yet occurred at the time of reporting.