

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 29 MAY 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Fraud Prevention and Compliance

Question reference number: HS 47

Senator: Fifield

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 27 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) In relation to the expansion of the range of data sources, who made the recommendation and/or subsequent decision to implement the cuts to the program?
- b) Was it the Department? Which Department/s?
- c) Was it the Minister? Which Minister/s?
- d) How will the expansion of the range of data sources improve fraud detection?
- e) Are there any targets or benchmarks in relation to the expansion of the range of data sources in the reduction of fraud and the associated savings from not making fraudulent payments?

Answer:

- a) There have been no cuts to the program. The program is to undertake additional activity as a result of widening the range of data sources to provide further triggers for intelligence analysis.
- b) Not applicable.
- c) Not applicable.
- d) The expansion of data sources provides access to additional information to identify risks such as identity fraud, undisclosed income and undisclosed assets.
- e) Yes. The target is \$57.1 million savings over four years. The program involves additional intelligence case identification, analysis and referral over existing levels of activity.