

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 5-6 JUNE 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Review measure of DSP recipients

Question reference number: HS 27

Senator: Cameron

Type of question: Hansard pages 10-11, 6 June 2014

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 25 July 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator CAMERON: Do you know how many of these 28,000 customers have mental health issues that result in a DSP payment?

Ms Golightly: No. We may be able to interrogate our data. But I would have to check that.

Senator CAMERON: Could you provide that on notice.

Ms Golightly: It would depend. We would have to look at it.

Ms Campbell: The system does not have a mechanism. There is no field.

Ms Golightly: That is right. A number of disabilities could be recorded, and whether it is the primary one or not, we—

....

Senator CAMERON: No, that is fine. But you could do the interrogation. You are going to write to them. The department is going to write to these individuals. You are going to look at their records. You must know why they are receiving disability support pension and whether that is for a multiplicity of reasons or whether it is for one individual reason.

Senator Payne: We will have a look at the material that is there and see what it is possible to extract for you on notice.

Answer:

The Department of Human Services has identified approximately 13,350 customers eligible for review who have a psychological or psychiatric condition recorded as their primary medical condition.