

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

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

Department of Human Services

Topic: Income support payments

Question reference number: HS 32

Senator: Cameron

Type of question: Hansard pages 14-15, 16 June 2014

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) Senator CAMERON: But you would expect, surely, the bulk of the referrals—it does not matter where your person is sitting—will be in the western suburbs of Sydney when we talk about Sydney. Is that correct, Ms Golightly?

Ms Campbell: I do not have those numbers with me, Senator. I can take on notice where we have seen trends for Newstart claims, but I do not have that with me.

Senator CAMERON: But it is not just Newstart claims; it is existing Newstart recipients. You know where the Newstart recipients are in Sydney, don't you?

Ms Campbell: I do not have those numbers with me but I can take that on notice.

Senator CAMERON: Are there any staff here with those numbers? Is there no-one here who can tell me numbers? Here we have the whole of DHS at our beck and call and we cannot get a simple response on how many Newstart recipients are in Sydney. You have got to be joking!

Ms Campbell: We can see whether we can find a number for how many there are on Newstart in New South Wales.

Senator CAMERON: But you can break it down further than that, can't you?

Ms Campbell: We can break it down by service centre but, as I have said, I do not have that information with me. I am happy to take it on notice.

- b) Senator CAMERON: Let's come back to Penrith. You cannot tell me how many Newstart recipients are in the Penrith region?

Ms Campbell: We do not have that information with us. I still do not have that information with me, Senator. I can take the question on notice.

Answer:

See answer to HS 31.