

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

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

Department of Human Services

Topic: Appointments

Question reference number: HS 108

Senator: Ludwig

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) Please detail any board appointments made from Additional Estimates in February 2014 to date.
- b) What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?
- c) Does the department have a gender ratio target and/or any other policy intended to increase the participation rate of women on boards? If yes, please specify what the target and policy is for each board.
- d) Please specify when these gender ratio or participation policies were put in place.
- e) Has there been any change to this ratio or policy since September 7, 2013? If yes, please detail.

Answer:

The only board within the Human Services portfolio is the Board of Australian Hearing Services.

- a) There have been no board appointments made during the period.
- b) The Board comprises six people, four women and two men. Therefore the ratio is currently 4:2.
- c) The department follows the Commonwealth Government target of achieving a minimum of 40 per cent women and 40 per cent men on Australian Government Boards by 2015.
- d) The policy has been in place since 2010.
- e) When Ms Kathryn Campbell CSC was a special purpose Director, the Board comprised seven people, five women and two men. Therefore the ratio was 5:2. Ms Campbell's term expired on 28 November 2013. There has been no policy change since 7 September 2013.