

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 3 JUNE 2015 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Budget Measure – Compliance – AFP Officer Secondment

Question reference number: HS 20

Senator: Siewert

Type of question: Hansard pages 53-54

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 24 July 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: Can I then go to the compliance measure? Is that where I ask about the compliance measure and the senior policeman coming on board?

Ms Campbell: This is a good opportunity.

Senator SIEWERT: Can we go through that in terms of the cost and the process?

Ms Golightly: As part of the same measure, as well as using the better tools for the income matching with the tax office, another part of the measure is to do a lot more investigations as well on the ground. That could look at not just income but more broadly at changes in circumstances more generally that may not be declared to us. That might go to things like where people are single or partnered and a whole lot of other things. Also, unexplained wealth. We will do a lot more investigations on the ground into other compliance issues. That work will be headed up by a senior AFP officer.

Senator SIEWERT: Will they be seconded to the department?

Ms Golightly: That is correct.

Senator SIEWERT: What is that costing?

Ms Golightly: I could get you that, but that is part of the overall \$200 million that we mentioned as the cost.

Senator SIEWERT: If you could take it on notice about the specifics of how much it is going to cost?

Ms Golightly: Yes.

Answer:

The funding for the Taskforce elements for this measure is \$47,118,000 over four years, which includes funding for all staff related to the taskforce including the seconded AFP Assistant Commissioner.