

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 3 JUNE 2015 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Staff Remuneration

Question reference number: HS 25

Senator: Cameron

Type of question: Hansard page 72

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

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator REYNOLDS: I do not think you should given it was your own piece of legislation. That aside, you gave me the figures for an APS 5. Do you have the figures there for an APS 6, which I understand is more the median salary in the department?

Ms Talbot: I only have the figures for an APS 4, and the majority of our staff are APS 4.

Senator REYNOLDS: But I understand in terms of the wage—

Ms Talbot: We could provide an APS 5 on notice.

Senator REYNOLDS: Is there an APS 6 in terms of the median wage paid over the department?

Ms Talbot: No.

Senator REYNOLDS: Could you that on notice?

Ms Talbot: Yes.

Senator REYNOLDS: Perhaps if you could provide on notice for the APS 4, 5 and 6.

Senator Payne: You have the APS 4.

Senator REYNOLDS: No, I have APS 5. You said it was APS 5.

Ms Talbot: It was APS 4.

Senator REYNOLDS: It was APS 4?

Ms Talbot: Yes. I do not have the APS 5. I only have the APS 4.

Senator Payne: We can take that on notice.

Senator REYNOLDS: If you could take APS 4, 5 and 6 on notice.

Answer:

The February 2015 proposed pay offer is no longer current. However, had it come into effect, a general pay rise of 1.5 per cent would have been paid in 2015, which would have resulted in:

- the median APS 4 salary of \$69,239 increasing by \$1,039 to \$70,278 on commencement of the agreement;
- the median APS 5 salary of \$75,208 increasing by \$1,128 to \$76,336 on commencement of the agreement; and

- the median APS 6 salary of \$89,217 increasing by \$1,338 to \$90,555 on commencement of the agreement.

The median salaries are based on data collected as at 31 December 2014.

Departmental employees not at the top of the salary range of the relevant classification would have been eligible for an additional increase of 0.5 per cent salary advancement.