

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Outcome – Across Programmes

Question No: SQ15-000447

Topic: Media inquiries

Hansard page: Written

Senator Lines asked:

1. How many staff members does the Department's media team have?
2. How many media enquiries has the Department received in the past six months?
3. How many media enquiries has the Department directly responded to? How many have been referred to the Minister's Office for a response?
4. How many media releases has the Department issued in FY 2014-2015?

Answer:

1. There is no dedicated media team in the Department of Social Services. Responsibility for media enquiries is distributed among the staff of the Department's Communications and Media Branch.
2. DSS received 390 media inquiries between 1 January 2015 and 22 June 2015.
3. DSS responded to two media inquiries directly in that time period. All other media enquiries were referred to the relevant Ministers' Office or the Parliamentary Secretary's Office.
4. The Department issued 17 media releases between 1 July 2014 and 22 June 2015.