

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

Outcome Number: 2.1 Families and Communities

Question No: SQ15-000741

Topic: Healthy Welfare Card

Hansard page: CA55, 4 June 2015

Senator Moore asked:

Can we get a more particular level in terms of what the Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary and the Department have had in terms of consultation with banks and possible industry partners? The number of meetings, the dedicated time and any formal correspondence?

Answer:

The Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary and the Department of Social Services have had the following meetings and formal correspondence with banks and possible industry partners:

Meetings

The then Minister for Social Services, the Hon Kevin Andrews MP, and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Hon Alan Tudge MP, met with the following list of financial institutions and large retailers throughout October 2014:

- ANZ Australia
- NAB
- Westpac
- Commonwealth Bank
- eftpos Australia
- VISA Australia
- Mastercard Australia
- American Express Australia
- Coles
- Woolworths
- Metcash (IGA)

On 17 December 2014 officials from the Department of Social Services and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet met with representatives of the Commonwealth Bank.

On 23 December 2014 officials from the Department of Social Services and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet met with representatives of Metcash.

On 30 January 2015 the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Hon Alan Tudge MP, met with representatives of Westpac.

In early 2015, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Hon Alan Tudge MP, met with representatives of Commonwealth Bank and Indue Ltd.

On 4 February 2015 the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Hon Alan Tudge MP, and officials from the Department of Social Services and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet met with representatives from ANZ and NAB (at separate meetings).

On 19 March 2015 officials from the Department of Social Services and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet met with representatives of Indue Ltd.

Correspondence

In late October 2014 the Department of Social Services emailed all the financial institutions and large retailers who were to be consulted in October 2014.

In December 2014 the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Hon Alan Tudge MP, and the then Minister for Social Services, the Hon Kevin Andrews MP, sent letters to all the organisations contacted during the October 2014 consultations.

On 2 February 2015 the Department of Social Services sent an email to representatives from NAB. An email response was received from NAB on 3 February 2015.

On 16 February 2015 representatives from Commonwealth Bank sent an email to the Office of the Minister for Social Services, which was then forwarded on to the Department of Social Services.

On 17 February 2015 representatives from NAB emailed the Department of Social Services.

On 18 February 2015 representatives from ANZ sent an email to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Hon Alan Tudge MP, which was then forwarded to the Department of Social Services.

On 19 February 2015 representatives from Westpac sent an email to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Hon Alan Tudge MP, which was then forwarded to the Department of Social Services.

In March 2015 the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Hon Alan Tudge MP sent letters to representatives from Commonwealth Bank, NAB, Westpac and ANZ.

On 3 May 2015 a representative from Metcash sent an email to the Department of Social Services.

On 17 June 2015 a representative from Metcash sent an email to the Department of Social Services.

On 18 June 2015 the Department of Social Services sent an email to a representative from Metcash.