

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES - 20 OCTOBER 2011 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Staff misconduct investigations

Question reference number: HS 3

Senator: Fifield

Type of question: Hansard page 83

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 December 2011

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator FIFIELD: Just in a similar vein, the response to another question on notice in relation to staff misconduct, answer HS12, provides a table, a breakdown by category, of the type of breach.

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Could you take on notice from that period until now as well.

Answer:

HS12 provided information for the 2010-11 financial year. Cases not resolved in the financial year are added into the next financial year report.

Code of Conduct data for the 2011-12 financial year (as at 31 October 2011)

| Type of Breach | Cases underway and finalised |
|---|------------------------------|
| Browsing (improper access to personal information) | 49 |
| Improper use of resources (other than email) | 9 |
| Inappropriate use of Government vehicles | 4 |
| Inappropriate behaviour other than bullying or harassment | 44 |
| Harassment and or bullying | 21 |
| Unauthorised disclosure of information | 7 |
| Theft | 2 |
| Behaviour of the employee outside of work | 3 |
| Fraud other than theft | 27 |
| Misuse of drugs and or alcohol | 1 |
| Conflict of interest | 13 |
| Improper use of position or status | 4 |
| Improper use of internet or email | 24 |
| Other | 22 |

Note: A total has not been provided as an individual investigation may be counted against more than one type of misconduct.

There were 89 Code of Conduct investigations finalised in the period 1 July to 31 October 2011. Of these, 62 resulted in a finding of a breach of the APS Code of Conduct. In 12 cases no breach was found, and 15 employees resigned prior to the completion of their case.