

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - 18 OCTOBER 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Centrelink Tip-off line

Question reference number: HS 7

Senator: Fifield

Type of question: Hansard page 101

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 7 December 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator FIFIELD: Did the tip-offs to the line increase immediately after Mr Jongen has been on *A Current Affair* or *Today Tonight*?

Ms Campbell: I do not have that information with me at the moment. We could have a look at volumes when there has been some media.

Answer:

Analysis of the number of tip-offs received by the Department indicates that there is generally no significant increase in tip-offs immediately after Mr Jongen has been on *A Current Affair* or *Today Tonight*.

During the period from 29 June 2011 to 3 October 2012, one spike in tip-offs was noted in relation to Mr Jongen's appearances on *A Current Affair* and *Today Tonight*. This occurred on 30 June 2011, which was the day after Mr Jongen appeared on both shows in a story titled 'Centrelink's new data-matching system helps catch fraudsters'.