

## **Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - 21 NOVEMBER 2013 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **Department of Human Services**

**Topic:** Fraud and Compliance- Optical Surveillance

**Question reference number:** HS 52

**Senator:** Siewert

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 24 January 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

For the period 2012-13:

- a) How much has been spent on optical surveillance?
- b) How many clients were subject to surveillance?
- c) How many of those under surveillance resulted in no action being taken?
- d) What was the cost of the surveillance where no action resulted?

#### **Answer:**

For the period 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013:

- a) The Department of Human Services spent a total of \$145,459 on optical surveillance.
- b) A total of 152 people were subject to surveillance.
- c) Of those who were under surveillance by the department, 35 resulted in no action being taken.
- d) The actual cost of using surveillance in cases that warrant no further action is not readily available and the cost to determine this would represent an unreasonable diversion of resources.