

## Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 23-24 OCTOBER 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### Department of Human Services

**Topic:** Income Maintenance Periods

**Question reference number:** HS 167

**Senator:** Siewert

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 12 December 2014

**Number of pages:** 2

#### **Question:**

- a) In 2013-14, how many and what proportion of Income Maintenance Periods (IMPs) were of a length of:
- 1) less than a month;
  - 2) less than 3 months;
  - 3) 3-6 months;
  - 4) 6-9 months;
  - 5) 12 months;
  - 6) 24 months;
  - 7) 2-5 years;
  - 8) 6-10 years;
  - 9) 10 – 20 years; and
  - 10) Over 20 years.
- b) For 2013-14:
- 1) Provide a breakdown on the numbers of each payment types that were the subject of an IMP (including Special Benefit).
  - 2) How many IMP's were appealed at each stage of appeal, and what was the outcome of the appeal?
  - 3) How many Income Maintenance Periods (IMP) were imposed.
  - 4) Of the Income Maintenance Periods applied, detail the average IMP imposed.
  - 5) Provide data on the range of IMP's applied in the period.

#### **Answer:**

- a) The preparation of a response to this question would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
- b) 1) The preparation of a response to this question would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

- 2) Details of Income Maintenance Periods appealed at each stage of appeal and the outcome of the appeal is provided below:

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Appeal Decision Group</b>	<b>Total</b>
Review Officer	Affirmed	1,292
	No Jurisdiction	15
	Set Aside	1,331
	Varied	300
	Withdrawn	455
	Explained	279
<b>Review Officer Total</b>		<b>3,672</b>
Social Security Appeals Tribunal	Affirmed	136
	Did Not Attend	4
	No Jurisdiction	1
	Set Aside and Remitted	12
	Set Aside	29
	Varied	7
	Withdrawn	12
<b>Social Security Appeals Tribunal Total</b>		<b>201</b>
<b>Administrative Appeals Tribunal (Customer Appeal)</b>	<b>Affirmed</b>	6
	Consent Decision - Set Aside	4
	Consent Decision - Varied	2
	Did Not Attend	3
	Set Aside	2
	Withdrawn	16
<b>Administrative Appeals Tribunal (Customer Appeal) Total</b>		<b>33</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>3,906</b>

- 3) The number of Income Maintenance Periods applied in the 2013-14 financial year was 101,152.
- 4) The average Income Maintenance Period imposed was 27 days.
- 5) The preparation of a response to this question would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.