

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3

Question No: 437

Topic: DSBS outcomes

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Polley asked:

Please provide an outline of the process undertaken to alert Ministers and Central Agencies of the extent of the variation in the DSBS expenditure, including the specific agencies and departmental authorities, the dates they were notified and the responses received from each.

Answer:

The Department informed the Assistant Minister for Social Services and the Minister for Social Services of the higher than expected uptake of the Dementia and Severe Behaviours Supplement via a Minute in February 2014.

As part of the normal process to update estimates across Government, the Department also submitted an estimates variation to the Department of Finance in February 2014.

Further advice that expenditure for 2013-14 was expected to be around \$110 million was provided to Ministers Fifield and Andrews in May 2014.

Minister Andrews wrote to the Prime Minister in June 2014. Confirmation of policy authority from the Prime Minister to cease the Supplement was received in June 2014.