

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017

Australian Federal Police

Question No. BE17-052

Senator Xenophon asked the following question on 25 May 2017:

Mr Wood: Yes, there is a standard, and CommCare have best practice guidelines for all their clients which we would seek to abide by.

Senator XENOPHON: Which is?

Mr Wood: My recollection is it is two weeks for the initial claim but I will need to check that because I am not often involved in the individual lodgements, but I am certainly not aware of complaints of the AFP taking 12 months to do that. I am aware of a couple of recent claims that went in where I know they were lodged in less than two weeks.

Senator XENOPHON: Sure. Can you on notice provide me with details of how many times in the past year this standard has not been met. I also asked about the number of bullying claims, and you advised there were three that were accepted by CommCare. Was that three made or three made and accepted. If you could indicate that?

Mr Wood: I will get the details on notice, but I could not break them down.

Senator XENOPHON: Let me just roll some off on notice because I think that is the fairest way of dealing with them.

The response to the honourable Senator's question is as follows:

Comcare requires an employer to complete the submission of a workers' compensation claim within five working days of receipt. In the period 1 July 2016 to 13 June 2017, a total of 13 out of 197 claims were submitted outside this timeframe.

In the period 1 July 2016 to 13 June 2017, 16 harassment or bullying claims have been lodged. Of these, seven have been accepted, nine were rejected.