

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Department of Human Services

Additional Estimates 2007-08 – February 2008



Question: HS28b

Outcome 1, Output 1

Topic: DHS – Abolition of Parliamentary Liaison Officers

Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written

SENATOR BOYCE asked on 22/02/2008:

How was the decision to abolish LLOs conveyed to agency staff, especially officers undertaking LLO duties?

Answer:

The Secretary of the Department of Human Services wrote to the Human Services agency heads advising of the Government's decision to close the program and asking them to develop protocols for redirecting queries from MPs and Senators to ensure a service was maintained.

Subsequently, the Department of Human Services and the Human Services Portfolio agencies advised staff in writing and by email that the program had ceased with effect close of business 14 February 2008.