

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 25 May 2006

Question: HS41

Outcome 1, Output 2

Topic: Child Support Agency - Unplanned Leave

Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written

SENATOR EVANS asked the Minister for Human Services, upon written notice:

What is the incidence of unplanned leave taken by staff at the Child Support Agency during each month of 2006? How does the incidence of unplanned leave taken by staff at the Child Support Agency compare with the APS average?

Answer:

The following information shows the incidence of unplanned leave taken during each month of 2006. The figures are shown as an average of days taken per Full Time Equivalent (FTE):

January 2006	1.02
February 2006	1.20
March 2006	1.31
April 2006	0.89
May 2006	1.25

The only available APS wide statistic is contained in the APS produced *State of the Service Report 2002-2003*. Of the 21 agencies detailed in the report, the mean of unplanned leave was 11.9 days per FTE, per year. (This report was, in turn, based on ANAO Report No 52 of 2002-03.)

It is clear that unplanned leave in the Child Support Agency is unacceptably high and active strategies to reduce this leave taking are being implemented.

To prepare this answer it has taken approximately 2 hours at an estimated cost of \$113.