

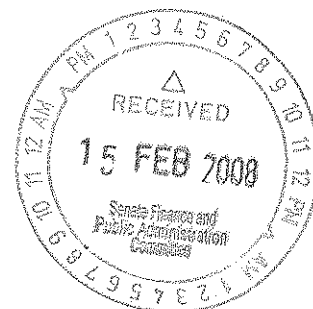
Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Budget Estimates Hearings 2007-2008, 21-22 May 2007



Question: PM 75

Outcome 1, Output 4.5

Topic: Dependant children

Hansard: F&PA 87

Senator Evans asked:

Senator CHRIS EVANS—I have no problem with that. I was intrigued by it when looking through your answers to questions on notice and I came across it. Obviously, dependant children are part of the family and at some time they become non-dependent. How do you calculate this rate if it is not a nightly rate?

Ms Hazell—It is reviewed regularly and adjusted in line with CPI.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—What is the rate?

Ms Hazell—I would have to take that on notice. I do not know what the current rate is. There is nobody living at the residences at the moment in this category.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—But the department has struck a rate?

Ms Hazell—I would have to take it on notice.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—Do you know who struck the rate?

Ms Hazell—I do not know exactly how the rate is calculated. It has been some time since the department has needed to use it.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—A calculation was made and then you indexed it by the CPI?

Ms Hazell—The last time it was used that is what happened.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—When was the last time it was used?

Ms Hazell—May 2006 is the last time it was used.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—Was that when one of the kids was living there for an extended period?

Ms Hazell—Yes, and that is when they departed.

Senator CHRIS EVANS—What were you charging at that time?

Ms Hazell—We would need to take that on notice. I do not have that with me.

Answer:

Refer to response to question on notice PM 99 from these hearings.