

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2010

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **File notes re Centrelink provision of information to the Parliamentary Library**

Question: **P 4 a) and b)**

Hansard reference: **F&PA 30, 24 May 2010**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

4 a)

Senator FIFIELD—... With regard to the discussion that Mr Daniels had with Ms Kercher in Minister Bowen's office, would Mr Daniels have kept a file note on that conversation?

Ms Missingham—I do not know, but I can find out.

Senator FIFIELD—Could you enquire as to whether he kept a file note on that conversation? If so, could that also be provided to the committee?

Ms Missingham—Certainly.

4 b)

Senator FIFIELD—I appreciate that. Ms Missingham, could you also take on board whether there have been any other conversations between the Library and Minister Bowen's office or the Library and Centrelink? Again, if there were file notes of those conversations, could they be provided to the committee as well?

Answer

1 File notes were not made of these conversations.

2 Library staff have requested unpublished Centrelink statistics from Centrelink on behalf of other clients in the past. Two such requests were lodged with Centrelink recently. File notes are not kept of conversations related to these requests. Such requests for Centrelink statistics would not be lodged with ministerial staff.