SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS FAMILY COURT OF AUSTRALIA/FEDERAL MAGISTRATES COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Question No. 99

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 12 February 2013:

The Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements provide that the Family Court of Australia recorded a higher actual deficit in 2011-12 than what was estimated.

1. Please outline the reasons behind that increase.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The Family Court's actual comprehensive loss less depreciation was \$4.301m, this was \$1.151m higher than reported in the 2012-13 PBS (page 297). The loss for the Court increased primarily as a result of further movement in the Commonwealth Government bond rate impacting on the valuation of employee provisions, increasing original estimates from \$1.150m to \$1.943m, an increase of \$0.793m. In addition, the Court incurred losses from sale of assets (\$0.276m) and fluctuations in other asset valuations (resulting in other changes in comprehensive income of \$0.269m) which were unexpected.