

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

**Group 3**

**Program 1.7**

**Question No. 21**

**Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 29 May 2013:**

**Senator HUMPHRIES:** ...I wanted to ask about AGDRP fraud. Are you able to tell me how many claims of fraud have been made in respect of payments under AGDRP?

**Mr Wilkins:** We will be prepared to take that on notice. Although technically the AGDRP is our program, it is administered by Department of Human Services and they have that data. I am told that we do not, but we could get it. We could take that on notice.

**Senator HUMPHRIES:** Okay.

**Mr Wilkins:** If you wish—or do you want to direct that to—

**Senator HUMPHRIES:** No, that is fine. I will just give you the information I want and if you could take that on notice. It is the total number of claims of alleged fraud of AGDRP from November 2011 to date against the total number of claims of assistance. Let's make it consistent—for each of the last two financial years; that is, this almost completed year and the previous year. How many of those have become a debt payable to the Commonwealth for fraud or in ineligibility or whatever it might be? How many of those debts have been waived due to financial difficulties or for any other reason? And how much has been recovered to date of those that have not been waived?

**Mr Wilkins:** Sorry, I should correct myself. I am informed it is FaHCSIA that actually does crunch the numbers on this. My CFO tells me that FaHCSIA does the numbers, the Department of Human Services does the administration and we own the program.

**Senator HUMPHRIES:** Right! It should be very easy, then, to track down the information, won't it?

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

	No. of AGDRP claims completed (includes claims rejected and granted)	No. of new debts raised against AGDRP claimants	\$ of new debts raised	\$ of debts recovered <sup>1</sup>	\$ of debts waived <sup>2</sup>	No. of completed investigations by Department of Human Services	No. of claims referred to Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions
<b>2011-2012</b>	75,379	2,470	\$2,985,826	\$2,555,373	\$1,011,403	70	23
<b>2012 – 31 May 2013</b>	197,553	64	\$86,476	\$1,022,079	\$16,677	69	Nil

<sup>1</sup> Amounts referred to in this column may include the recovery of debts incurred in the previous financial year.

<sup>2</sup> Amounts referred to in this column may include the waiver of debts incurred in the previous financial year.