Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2013-14 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 8 Question No: 557

Topic: Medicare

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Polley asked:

Has DHS provided an indication of when the Medicare issues will be fixed? If so, when? Are there formal arrangements to ensure DHS reports to you when there are issues?

Answer:

Department of Human Services (DHS) has not yet confirmed a date for when the current issues will be resolved. The Department is working closely with DHS with respect to the issues through a variety of mechanisms including:

- Daily officer to officer discussions and meetings to track progress and to provide support and clarification of legislative arrangements as required;
- Senior Executive meetings fortnightly; and
- Senior oversight provided through formal meetings between Deputy Secretaries from the Department and DHS on a fortnightly basis.