

## **Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee**

### **ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 11 FEBRUARY 2016 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **Department of Human Services**

**Topic:** Child Support

**Question reference number:** HS 122

**Senator:** Xenophon

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 4 April 2016

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

With respect to Child Support Assessments, in the past 12 months:

- a) How many allegations with respect to the other parent providing false, misleading and/or reckless information have been referred to the Department's Special Investigation Unit?
- b) How many of those allegations have been referred to the CDPP with respect to S119 or the 'Registration' Act and S159 and 159A of the 'Assessment' Act?

#### **Answer:**

- a) The department does not collect and record every claim that the other parent has acted in a fraudulent, misleading or reckless manner because such claims are usually resolved in the normal process of the decision maker obtaining and weighing all available evidence.
- b) For the financial year to date to 31 January 2016, there have been no matters referred to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP) in relation to Section 119(1) of the Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act 1988 or Section 159A(1) of the Child Support (Assessment) Act 1989.

There has been one referral to the CDPP in relation to Section 159(1) of the Child Support (Assessment) Act 1989.