

## Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

### ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 2 MARCH 2017 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### Department of Human Services

**Topic:** Information release – veracity of information

**Question reference number:** 10 (HS 10)

**Senator:** Siewert

**Type of question:** Hansard pages 21-22

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 21 April 2017

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

- a) Senator SIEWERT: Have you checked the veracity of what the minister said in addition to what you released?

Mr Hutson: There was some material which was provided to the minister's office in connection with this matter and, yes, the information that was provided was checked for veracity and was also checked for appropriateness of release in the context of section 202. As I said earlier to Senator Watt, we do not have a complete set of the information which was provided from the minister's office to the journalists.

- b) Senator SIEWERT: And that goes to the heart of my next question. When you get that, will you check the veracity of the information that was sent to the minister's office?

Mr Hutson: Yes.

#### **Answer:**

- a) and b) This matter is currently under evaluation by the Australian Federal Police (AFP). The AFP has advised that it would be inappropriate to comment on the matter while it is under evaluation.