

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 2 MARCH 2017 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Provision of personal information to the Minister's office

Question reference number: 21 (HS 21)

Senator: Watt

Type of question: Hansard page 42

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator WATT: How early in Minister Tudge's role was his office advised that every one of these pieces of protected information provided to his office is able to be disclosed in the media? Returning to that earlier case, I think you said that his office was told informally that the department had legal advice that said that it was okay to disclose this because of section 202. I am trying to establish whether that advice was provided to the minister on this occasion or beforehand.

Ms Campbell: Can we take on notice what we provided in the incoming minister brief to Minister Tudge about those provisions.

Answer:

The Incoming Minister Brief did not contain advice about this provision.