

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 2 JUNE 2011 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Human Services – Union right of entry requests

Question reference number: HS 9

Senator: Fifield

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Question:

Senator FIFIELD: Could you take on notice the details year-to-date of the right of entry requests that have been made?

Ms Chapman: I can take it on notice, but I guess what I would be saying is that the stuff that comes centrally we certainly have a record of; the requests that go locally are just dealt with locally.

Senator FIFIELD: A right of entry is a formal legal request, is it not?

Ms Chapman: Yes.

Senator FIFIELD: So, what happens locally? Is that a formal legal request or is it more just, 'Hey, do you mind if I pop around for a tick?'

Ms Chapman: They do it both ways, and if it is a formal request it goes to the local manager formally and they deal with it at that level. I can certainly get you the central requests.

Answer:

Based on the data available, the Human Services Portfolio has received 470 official right of entry notices from the Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) during the 2010-11 Financial year (up until 31 March 2011).

Specific data on the reason for the request for right of entry notice is not available. However, it should be noted that the majority of these requests are for the purpose of holding discussions with CPSU members.