

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Social Services Portfolio
2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 348

Topic: Stillborn Births

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

- (a) Can the Baby Bonus be accessed by a parent with a stillborn baby?
- (b) Detail what financial support is available to meet burial costs of stillborn infants.
- (c) Is the Department aware of any complaints in relation to these arrangements?

Answer:

- a) The Baby Bonus can be accessed by a parent with a stillborn baby, if the baby was born before 1 March 2014 and they meet the other eligibility requirements.
- b) The Stillborn Baby Payment (SBP) was introduced on 1 March 2014 and provides assistance with the extra costs associated with a stillborn child. As at 1 July 2014, the amount of SBP is \$2,056.45 for a first stillborn child or a stillborn child in a multiple birth and \$1,028.15 for a subsequent stillborn child.
- c) The Department has no record of any complaints in relation to the SBP arrangements.