

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

**Outcome Number: SSAT - Social Security Appeals Tribunal**

**Question No: 838**

**Topic: Social Security Appeals Tribunal**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Brown asked:**

Please provide the average waiting time for successful resolution of an appeal by payment type in the year 2013/2014.

**Answer:**

In its Annual Report, the SSAT reports the time from the date of registration of applications for review of decisions made by officers in Centrelink to the date of finalisation. For the first three quarters of 2013-14, the average time was 7.3 weeks. This time would be unaffected by the nature of the decision made by the SSAT (that is, whether the SSAT affirmed the decision under review, varied the decision under review or set aside the decision under review).