

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: 841

Topic: Social Security Appeals Tribunal

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Brown asked:

Please also provide numbers, by state, of all the following:

- a. appeals;
- b. reviews;
- c. complaints and feedback;
- d. aggregate number of fraud cases;
- e. aggregate number of fraud cases, by source;
- f. aggregate number of tip-offs received, by source; and
- g. specific data for each payment (e.g. employers for PPL).

Answer:

a and b: The number of applications for review of decisions made under the social security law received by the SSAT in the first three quarters of 2013-14 is in Table A to the response to question number 829.

c: The SSAT does not report complaints and feedback by State (each SSAT registry covers one State and one Territory, or two States).

d and e: The SSAT does not record whether a debt to the Commonwealth incurred by an applicant was the result of fraud. Whether or not a person has committed fraud is a matter for a court.

f: The SSAT does not receive “tip-offs”. As a hearing by the SSAT is private, members of the public do not know what decisions the SSAT is reviewing.

g: The SSAT understands that the “specific data” being requested relates to the information sought in the preceding paragraphs (which the SSAT does not have).