

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

**SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES – 21 OCTOBER 2010
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: CSA powers to obtain information

Question reference number: HS 1

Senator: Fifield

Type of question: Hansard CA 104

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 December 2010

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator FIFIELD - Would you be able to take on notice and provide the internal guidelines and procedures that you have as to when it is appropriate to use which powers, which level of officer is required to approve particular courses of action and so forth?

Ms Godwin - We can take that on notice, yes.

Answer:

The powers of an Investigation Officer are specified in the Child Support Program (CSP) Investigation and Prosecution Manual at Attachment A.

Where a CSP Investigation Officer identifies any offences during the course of their investigations and enquiries, the National Manager of Non-Compliance (SES Band 1) in the CSP makes the decision whether to:

- issue a warning letter to the individual;
- refer a brief to the Australian Federal Police for further investigation; or
- refer a brief to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions for consideration of prosecution action.