

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2012-13 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 6

Question No: 86

Topic: Office for Women

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Cash asked:

"The Women's Budget Statement 2012 refers to the achievements and budget measures of the Gillard Government in working to improve the lives of women. Please outline what the Office for Women has done to date, in its capacity to deliver better outcomes for women, to influence policy, to consult across government and to influence policy, Cabinet and Budget decision-making, had in providing input on each of the following: - increase to the rate of Family Tax Benefit Part A;- the Schoolkids Bonus; - National Carer Strategy;- National Disability Insurance Scheme; - Mental health reform;- The aged care system. "

Answer:

The Office for Women provides advice in many ways including to the Minister for the Status of Women, to other Departments directly and through cabinet submissions. As the measures identified all involve complex policy and program considerations they are managed by the departments with the relevant responsibility and broad-ranging expertise. In most of these areas FaHCSIA has a central responsibility and the Office for Women liaises with the appropriate area in FaHCSIA to ensure the issues for women are identified, understood and taken into account. The Office for Women is ready to assist in relation to gender equality. Other areas of FaHCSIA, as well as other departments, are aware that the Office for Women is available to provide advice and support.