

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 22 OCTOBER 2015 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Aged Care Payments

Question reference number: HS 25

Senator: Siewert

Type of question: Hansard page 127

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 December 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: I want to go to the issue around aged-care payment, and I did have a quick chat to DSS about it yesterday. I know that we have had a number of discussions about this. I am still told that there is still a considerable lag in the process and that providers still are not getting paid on time.

Ms Golightly: I am not aware of any issues in that respect. The providers get an advance every month. The rules are that they have to put in their previous claims and then that will trigger an advance for the next month. There have not been any problems in that space for some time. But if you have particulars, we are always more than happy to look into particular cases if someone has a concern.

Senator SIEWERT: I have this letter here, I am going to check with the people who I have been talking to and make sure I can hand it over, because we keep having this, 'No it's not.'—

Ms Golightly: Yes we do.

Senator SIEWERT: I have this now and I will check to make sure I can hand it over, and then I would ask you to take it on notice.

Ms Golightly: Absolutely.

Answer:

The Department has not been provided with correspondence or details of the matter raised, and is therefore unable to respond.