

## Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

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

#### Department of Human Services

**Topic:** Social Security Prosecutions

**Question reference number:** HS 211

**Senator:** Siewert

**Type of question:** Written

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

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

- a) With reference to Social Security Prosecutions and people receiving social security payments, in 2014-15:
  - 1) How many people did the Department of Human Services refer to the Commonwealth Department of Public Prosecutions (CDPP)?
  - 2) How many were convicted?
  - 3) Of those convicted:
    - i) provide a breakdown by gender;
    - ii) provide a breakdown by payment type;
    - iii) provide a breakdown by age;
    - iv) provide a breakdown by state and territory of those prosecuted;
    - v) What was the total amount of funds for those who were convicted by the CDPP?
    - vi) What was the average amount involved?
- b) For 2014-15, what is the percentage of those convicted for social security fraud of the total number of income support recipients over the period (in number and percent)?

#### **Answer:**

- a) 1) 1,366
  - 2) The Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP) is the independent prosecution service established to prosecute alleged offences against Commonwealth law and, as such, all data relating to prosecution action should be sourced from the CDPP.
  - 3) See answer to (a)(2).
- b) See answer to (a)(2).