

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programmes Question No: SQ15-000840

Topic: Departmental Rebranding

Hansard page: Written

Senator Joe Ludwig asked:

1. Following the changes in September 2015 does the department share any goods/services/accommodation with other departments?
2. What resources/services does the department share with other departments; are there plans to cease sharing the sharing of these resources/services?
3. What were the costs to the department prior to the Machinery of Government changes for these shared resources? What are the estimated costs after the ceasing of shared resource arrangements?

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. DSS has shared and common services that are managed under Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) arrangements, including significant payment services provided by the Department of Human Services, the provision of Programme Management Services by DSS to a range of Commonwealth agencies and reciprocal corporate shared services. There are no plans to cease those MOU arrangements.
3. Prior to the 2015 AAO changes, the shared costs were around \$12 million in 2014-15 which will reduce to around \$3 million in 2015-16 which mainly relate to accommodation.