

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: SQ15-000881

Topic: Ministerial Staffing

Hansard page: Written

Senator Carol Brown asked:

1. Following the appointment of Minister Porter and Assistant Minister Tudge to the portfolio have any departmental officers been seconded to work in the ministerial offices?
 - a. If so, what are the details of these appointments, to what position have they been appointed, and how were they made?
 - b. In which Minister's office have they been placed?
 - c. Are they temporary or permanent?
 - d. Who is paying for them – are they on the Department's books or have they been engaged under the MOPS Act and are therefore on the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary books?

Answer:

Yes, the Department has provided short-term relief staff to support the office, which is in accordance with the Department of Finance Ministers of State Entitlements Handbook.

The Department has provided the following interim staff to Minister Porter's office (as at 6 November 2015):

Position	Temporary/ Permanent	Department paying
Chief of Staff	Temporary	DSS
Senior Adviser	Temporary	DSS
Media Adviser	Temporary	DSS
Receptionist/ Office Manager (various relief staff)	Temporary	DSS

In addition, the Department has provided two DLOs to Minister Porter's office.

As at 6 November 2015, there have been no DSS staff seconded to work in Minister Tudge's office.