

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2016 - 2017

**Division/Agency:** Australian Bureau of Statistics

**Question No:** 22

**Topic:** 2016 Census - payment of collectors

**Reference:** Written

**Senator:** Ketter, Chris

**Question:**

- 1) Paper form collectors / field workers, employed under contracts, have contacted MPs regarding non-payment. Is the ABS having ongoing difficulties in verifying hours worked by contractors?
- 2) Is this a result of extra work, and verifying claims of extra work, performed by field workers due to the Census night failure?
- 3) Does the ABS have an estimate of how long it will take for field workers' hours to be verified and thus paid?
- 4) What was the extra cost of extra collectors?

**Answer:**

1. No.
2. No.
3. As at 1 December, the verification and payment of all pay reviews received by 17 November 2016 have been verified and paid. Any subsequent requests for pay reviews received after 17 November 2016 will be verified and paid in the next possible ABS fortnightly payroll cycle.
4. No extra collectors were employed.