

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Additional Estimates 2005-2006, 14 November 2006

Question: HS4

Outcome 1, Output 1

Topic: Department of Human Services – Cost to Answer Questions

Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: F&PA 116

SENATOR MOORE asked on 14/2/2006:

Senator MOORE – I think it would be useful if we could come to some kind of process internally before the next cycle with questions on notice that require this degree of investigation and cost so that there could be some link from the department back to the secretariat to give us some warning about that to see whether we wished to pursue those questions or not so we do not get to this. That would be good.

Senator Colbeck – We will take that through as a point to be taken back to the minister and see if we get a response. We will seek a comment from the Minister: I think that is the most appropriate response.

Answer:

In the past, the Department of Human Services has sought clarification from the committee on questions on notice. Again following the hearing of 14 February 2006, the Department sought early clarification from the Committee.

This answer required 1 hour at a cost of \$40 to prepare.