

**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 February 2006

**Question: HS26**

**Outcome 1, Output 1**

**Topic: DHS Core – Briefs to the DPP**

**Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written**

**SENATOR LUDWIG** asked on 14/2/2006:

1. How many briefs have you forwarded to the DPP for 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05?
  - (a) How many briefs were returned without action, and how many were actioned?
2. For each year, what was the average time (as well as indicating the minimum and maximum time in each case) in which it took the DPP to:
  - (a) Bring charges against the accused party?
  - (b) Formally bring the matter to a conclusion through either a verdict of guilty or not guilty, the entrance of a nolle prosequi or dropping the charges?
  - (c) Return the brief for no further action?
3. Did the department or agency forward any formal complaints to the DPP regarding the handling of the brief?
  - (a) If so, give details.
4. Did the department or agency forward any informal complaints to the DPP regarding the handling of the brief?
  - (a) If so, give details.

**Answer:**

The following answer applies in relation to the Department of Human Services, not including the Child Support Agency and CRS Australia (the core Department):

1. From 26 October 2004 (the date on which the core Department was established) to 30 June 2005, the core Department did not forward any briefs of evidence to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.

This answer required half an hour at a cost of \$ 24.00 to prepare.