

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: HS 29

Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Topic: Centrelink – Prosecutions

Written Question on Notice:

SENATOR LUDWIG asked:

General question to all departments and agencies

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:

1. The number of briefs referred for prosecution by the Director of Public Prosecutions and the number of prosecutions by the Director of Public Prosecutions are contained in Centrelink's Annual Reports.
 - 2001-02, page 96;
 - 2002-03, page 82;
 - 2003-04, page 56; and
 - 2004-05, page 49.
2. Definitive data on this question should be sourced from the DPP.
3. This information is not recorded.
4. This information is not recorded.

The answer required 3 hours, 55 minutes at a cost of \$167.00 to prepare.