

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Department of Human Services

Budget Estimates 26 May 2005

QUESTION NUMBER: HS37
DATE ASKED: 26/05/2005
DATE DUE TABLING: 08/07/2005

SENATOR Ludwig asked on 26/05/2005:

A follow-up to a question Senator Ludwig asked in December ...

1. Regarding the employees that your department or agency has identified as having:
 - (a) fluency
 - (b) accredited translator
 - (c) accredited interpreter
2. Of these employees, please indicate what the department is doing in order to make full use of its employees skills in this regard, and please provide a breakdown of this between employees whose accreditation was paid for by the department and those whose were not?

Mr Hockey – The Minister for Human Services has provided the following answer to the honourable senator's question:

The core Department of Human Services has not identified any employees as having fluency in another language, nor have we identified any accredited translators, or interpreters.

The Department is still recruiting its permanent staff. The Department notes these skills as people are recruited.