

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

CRS Australia

Budget Estimates 26 May 2005

QUESTION NUMBER: HS39
DATE ASKED: 26/05/2005
DATE DUE TABLING: 08/07/2005

SENATOR LUDWIG asked the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services, upon notice, on 26 May 2005:

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?

Answer:

1. CRS Australia pays a Community language allowance (CLA) rate to 15 staff. 6 staff receive CLA Rate 1 and 9 staff receive CLA Rate 2.
2. CRS Australia approves payment of the CLA to an employee where there is an identifiable and continuing need for the particular language skill. The employee is required to cover costs relating to gaining NAATI accreditation.