

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Finance and Public Administration Portfolio**

**Department of Human Services and agencies**

Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 25 May 2006

**Question: HS21**

**Outcome 1, Output 1.1**

**Topic: Welfare to Work (Financial Case Management)**

**Hansard Page: F&PA 106**

**SENATOR Penny Wong** asked on 25/5/2006:

Senator WONG—Yes, I am aware of that, but you obviously have some knowledge because you just given evidence to me that this particular aspect of the guidelines—which is only one aspect of the Welfare to Work guidelines—will be contained separately. So I am asking: from the advice provided to you, what is your understanding of where a whole range of the guidelines associated with the implementation in this legislation will reside?

Mr Divall—My understanding of where the specific guidelines will be held is only quite vague. We accept guidelines from the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations where they specifically are; I am not clear whether they are in social security guidelines or other guidelines.

Senator WONG—Have you been provided with a copy of these guidelines on financial case management?

Mr Divall—We have sets of questions and answers that guide us on specific aspects of financial case management, but I would have to check whether I have the specific policy guide for financial case management at this point.

Senator WONG—Do you know what the legal status of the stand-alone guidelines would be?

Mr Divall—I do not.

Senator WONG—Centrelink has not been advised?

Mr Divall—We would need to check.

**Answer:**

The Department of Employment and Workplace Relations have provided a copy of policy guidelines in relation to Financial Case Management for a 1 July 2006 implementation.