

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Human Services and agencies

Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 25 May 2006

Question: HS28

Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Topic: Centrelink – Income Support Data by Postcode

Hansard Page or Written Question on Notice: F&PA 120

SENATOR WONG asked on 25/5/2006:

Senator WONG—So we do not have an argument about questions on notice, do you still trap data in terms of benefits per postcode?

Mr Whalan—Yes, we do.

Senator WONG—Could I have that for DSP, the various Newstart payments and the parenting payment?

Mr Whalan—Yes.

Senator WONG—Is it onerous to extract that detail?

Mr Whalan—I actually think it is already published on the web—

Senator WONG—I do not think it is up to date.

Mr Whalan—I will confirm that for you and, if it is, we will ring your office and confirm that. If it is not, we will provide it in a paper.

Answer:

The total number of customers by postcode in receipt of:

- Newstart Allowance – is at Attachment A;
- Youth Allowance – is at Attachment B;
- Disability Support Pension – is at Attachment C;
- Parenting Payment Partnered – is at Attachment D; and
- Parenting Payment Single – Attachment E.

The attached data must be read in conjunction with the following explanatory notes:

- **Confidentiality Provision:** All cells that have a value of less than 20, other than zero, have been changed to display "<20". This rule has been employed for privacy reasons. Where total fields are included these will only have a value when it does not make it possible to work out the value of any "<20" fields.
- **Point in Time:** All data supplied is point in time data. This means that the data is reflective of the point in time when the snap shot was taken. The data that the snap shot was taken can be found in the heading above your data. ALL snap shot data is taken as at a particular fortnight within a particular month or quarter depending on the data source.

To prepare this answer it has taken approximately 12 hours and 46 minutes at an estimated cost of \$659.