

**Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Human Services Portfolio**

**Centrelink**

Budget Estimates 2007-08 - May 2007

**Question: HS37**

**Outcome 1 Output 1.1**

**Topic: Centrelink – Fraud Convictions**

**Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Hansard Page F&PA 122**

**SENATOR LUNDY asked** on 24/05/2007:

**Senator LUNDY** - Can you provide what detail you can about the different categories of fraud and the numbers of people who have been charged and found guilty?

**Dr Browne** – I will take that on notice.

**Answer:**

Centrelink's fraud categories can be broken up into employment, marriage like relationships, identity fraud, non-employment income and assets, dependant child/ren, residence, internal program fraud, qualification, non-customer, education and unclassified.

Figures for the 2006-07 financial year to 30 April 2007, indicate 2,370<sup>1</sup> people have been charged and found guilty of social security fraud.

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<sup>1</sup> Due to the case recording, a person may have multiple offences recorded against them. For example a person may have two employment offences and one identity fraud offence recorded against them. In this report the person would be counted once under employment offence and once under identity fraud offence. Therefore 2,370 people have 2,427 offences recorded against them.