

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 27 May 2010 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Board Appointments

Question reference number: HS41

Senator: BARNETT

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?
- b) What is the gender ratio of appointments made to boards since the Government came to office in November 2007?

Answer:

- a) The Human Services portfolio, including Centrelink and Medicare Australia, operate under the guidance of a single agency head or Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the *Public Service Act 1999* and the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*. As such, these agencies do not have a board overseeing their operation.

The Portfolio also includes Australian Hearing, a statutory authority constituted under the *Australian Hearing Services Act 1991* and the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*. Australian Hearing has a Board of five non-executive Directors and a Managing Director. Two of the five non-executive Directors are women.

- b) Since November 2007 the only change to the Australian Hearing Board of Directors has been the appointment of a new Managing Director, Mr Steven Grundy, in October 2008. Mr Grundy replaced former Managing Director, Ms Anthea Green.