

# Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee

## SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 October 2009 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

### Human Services Portfolio

**Topic:** Electoral based information

**Question reference number:** HS74

**Senator:** Scullion

**Type of question:** *Hansard F&PA page 116*

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 4 December 2009

**Number of pages:** 2

#### **Question:**

**Senator SCULLION**—Do you prepare electoral reports? For example, do you say how many Centrelink offices are in Solomon or how many Medicare offices or staff there are et cetera? Is it perhaps electorate specific?

**Mr Pratt**—I will just check.

**Ms Hartland**—There has been some information of that ilk that has been provided through the Parliamentary Library but not on a regular basis in response to some specific request. We would have to take the specifics of that question on notice.

#### **Answer:**

##### Department of Human Services (DHS) (excluding CRS Australia)

DHS publishes Centrelink electorate data by payment type on its website ([www.humanservices.gov.au](http://www.humanservices.gov.au)).

The Child Support Program publishes electorate data on the number of paying parents, receiving parents and eligible children on its website ([www.csa.gov.au](http://www.csa.gov.au)). This data is updated annually and was last updated on 30 November 2009.

##### CRS Australia

CRS Australia does not prepare electoral reports.

##### Medicare Australia

The Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) has the lead in regards to publishing health information by electorate. Medicare Australia publishes the same electorate information with the express permission of DoHA.

Currently on Medicare Australia's website are electorate statistics detailing:

- bulk bill statistics for 2008-09; and
- safety net statistics for the 2008 calendar year.

Medicare Australia does not publish the location of its offices by electorate. The location of Medicare offices and other claiming facilities can be found on Medicare Australia's website ([www.medicare.gov.au](http://www.medicare.gov.au)) and was updated on 27 November 2009.

### Centrelink

In addition to the Centrelink electorate data published on the DHS website, Centrelink publishes either monthly or quarterly, reports relating to the Mobile Servicing Unit, Families House Stimulus Package data and the Economic Security Strategy for Families. Centrelink also prepares a regular electoral information pack for Community Cabinet meetings ([www.centrelink.gov.au](http://www.centrelink.gov.au)). Ad-hoc reports are prepared on an as needs basis, such as requests by Members of Parliament.

### Australian Hearing

Australian Hearing does not prepare electoral reports.