

Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee

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

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Staffing trends

Question reference number: HS77

Senator: Scullion

Type of question: *Hansard F&PA page 118*

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator SCULLION—Thank you. How many staff are there in the Department of Human Services and each of its agencies? I am not all that interested in the number; I am more interested in the trends, although you can provide that on notice. Has the number increased or decreased?

Ms Hartland—I do not have the figures across years to make that comparison. I have got some total figures here before total staff headcount that I could provide to you, but I do not have the comparison across years.

Senator SCULLION—If you could take that on notice that would be fine.

Mr Pratt—Yes, we will take it on notice.

Answer:

The following table provides staffing levels ('headcount' including ongoing and non-ongoing) as at 30 June each year for the last three years, for the Department of Human Services and its agencies:

	2007	2008	2009
Department of Human Services¹	6,455	6,385	6,643
Medicare Australia	5,972	5,915	5,887
Centrelink	27,298	26,167	27,954
Australian Hearing	978	1,036	1,115

¹ This includes figures for the Central Department, the Child Support Program and CRS Australia.