

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 1.1

Question No. 27

Senator Crossin asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2006:

There is some concern amongst provider agencies and referral agencies that people assume that the family relationship services are run by a government agency, for example they are often referred to as 'that new government service':

- (a) Has the Government assessed the extent to which people may be misled in this way?
- (b) Who will be liable for any mishaps, injuries or negligence?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- (a) The Government is not aware of any significant community misunderstandings about the new services.
- (b) This would depend on the circumstances of the particular case. It would not be appropriate for the Department to provide speculative legal advice.