

2015.10.05

3.1 Senator Z.A. Cameron of the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding complaints made about staff by staff within Health and Social Services:

Over the last 12 months, how many complaints have been made about staff by staff within Health and Social Services and how many of these have led to disciplinary hearings?

Senator A.K.F. Green (The Minister for Health and Social Services):

Over the last 12 months, 27 formal complaints were registered, of which 2 led to disciplinary hearings.

3.1.1 Senator Z.A. Cameron:

Has the department considered introducing a culture of collaboration rather than competition and buck passing, where staff are encouraged to sit down together and discuss their differing perspectives and points of view in an environment that encourages challenge in order to learn and improve the system?

Senator A.K.F. Green:

We are working on improving the culture. The Senator implies there is not a culture of working together. I am able to say that 25 of the complaints were settled by mature discussion.

3.1.2 Senator Z.A. Cameron:

It is just a shame that those complaints were necessary in the first place.

The Bailiff:

The question? Is that a question?

Senator Z.A. Cameron:

Is it not a shame?

Senator A.K.F. Green:

Well, yes, it is, but it is the real world and I do not always agree with my wife. Unfortunately, she does not have a procedure for complaining about me. **[Laughter]**

The Bailiff:

Some things are beyond even the States, Minister, I think. **[Laughter]**