

## Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

### ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES - 16 FEBRUARY 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### Human Services Portfolio

**Topic:** Chronic Disease Dental Scheme

**Question reference number:** HS 2

**Senator:** Di Natale

**Type of question:** Hansard pages 89-90

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 29 March 2012

**Number of pages:** 2

**Question:**

- a) Mr Rimmer: As at 31 December 2011, 11,713 dentists had claimed under the chronic disease scheme. There were 933 audits that were under consideration or active, of which 629 were under way or completed. Of those, 89 were closed—  
Senator DI NATALE: Good. So we have 89 that have been closed.

Mr Popple: Yes.

Senator DI NATALE: Perhaps on notice, could you give me a breakdown by state?

Mr Popple: We should be able to, yes.

Senator DI NATALE: And perhaps a breakdown on, again, the number of audits that are under way, those completed, and compliant versus non-compliant on a state basis?

- b) Senator DI NATALE: Let us go back to the question of compliant and non-compliant. You said that 26 of the 89 are compliant and 63 are non-compliant. Is that correct?

Mr Rimmer: Yes.

Mr Popple: So 12 of the 63 were found not to have provided services.

Senator DI NATALE: Not provided them at all?

Mr Popple: That is right.

Senator DI NATALE: Of the 12, is there any indication that those services were to be completed?

Mr Popple: I do not have that detail.

Senator DI NATALE: In other words, they were billed and booked to come in later.

Mr Rimmer: We can take that on notice.

Senator DI NATALE: Please let me know how many of the 12.

Senator ABETZ: How many of them were incorrect descriptions: so the service was not provided but another service was provided?

Mr Rimmer: We do not have that information here, but we are happy to take it on notice.

**Answer:**

a) State breakdown at 31 December 2011:

<b>State</b>	<b>Underway</b>	<b>Closed</b>	<b>Closed cases Compliant</b>	<b>Closed cases Non-compliant</b>
NSW/ACT	382	27	4	23
QLD	21	17	9	8
VIC/TAS	119	29	11	18
WA/SA/NT	18	16	2	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>63</b>

b) In the 12 cases cited, there was no indication from the dental practitioners that services determined as not provided were going to be provided in the future. There was also no indication from the dental practitioners that where services were determined as not provided, an alternative service was provided.