

## **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 5

**Senator:** Di Natale

**Type of question:** Hansard page 92

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

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

- a) Senator DI NATALE: How much have the CDDS audits cost in total?

Mr Rimmer: We do not have that information available here to my knowledge. Roughly speaking, there is a task force operating and working on this topic which has something like 40 or 45 staff—something like that. We can take the exact numbers on notice.

Senator ABETZ: Could you take that on notice.

Mr Rimmer: Sure.

- b) Senator DI NATALE: Okay. For the people who have completed treatment, can you give me the average cost?

Mr Rimmer: We will take that on notice.

#### **Answer:**

- a) The cost of the audits for the period from the announcement of the CDDS Taskforce, to 31 January 2012, is \$4,671,944.
- b) The department is not able to determine whether, at a specific point in time, a patient has 'completed treatment' and therefore cannot provide the average cost for patients who have completed treatment.