

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-109

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Data costs to service providers

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

What is the cost to service providers implementing new data definitions, its collation and distribution?

Answer:

This question is answered in the context of question E11-107 on homelessness services data collection.

The move to the new Specialist Homelessness Services Collection offers agencies a more efficient process for managing client information and providing data to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Although there are an increased number of data items in the collection and submission of data is more frequent, the system for collecting data is more efficient and also ensures that the data supplied is more accurate thereby reducing considerably the time and the effort required by agencies to verify and correct data.

This increased frequency of submission of data and reports provided back to agencies will enable agencies to better manage their services and assess their performance and activity more regularly.