QoN No.	Agency/ Outcome	Senator	Broad topic	QUESTION	Hansard/ Ref
1	8	Scullion		a) Is OATSIH aware of the cessation of funding to Mai Wiru for the provision of assistance to increase store nutrition awareness and general governance and management advice to community stores in the APY lands? b) What review has been conducted to assess the improvement in store nutrition policies and practices? c) Can copies of any reviews be provided to the committee? d) What measures are in place or being supported in order to maintain store nutrition and management standards in the APY Lands? e) Is funding to be provided to Outback Stores to provide future support in the APY lands? f) What is the amount of this funding? g) Was this decision made by OATSIH or FAHCSIA? h) Were APY communities consulted about this decision? i) Will Outback Stores be establishing and stores on the lands, and if yes, where? j) Are Outback Stores being contracted or assisted by the government to take over management of any APY Lands community stores?	Written QoN
2	1	Scullion	Foetal Alcohol Syndrome - Funding to develop diagnostic	The Marula project in Fitzroy Crossing is developing FAS diagnostic tools a) How much federal funding has been provided? b) When does the funding agreement end? c) What has been allocated	Written QoN
3	1	Scullion	tools Foetal Alcohol Syndrome - Funding to develop diagnostic tools	in future to continue the development of the diagnostic tools? a) Have any grants been provided to NOFASARD - The National Organisation for Foetal Alcohol Syndrome and Related Disorders and RFFADA - Russell Family Foetal Alcohol Disorders Association? b) What is the value of these grants? c) What is the funding period?	Written QoN
4	5	Bushby	Sorell GP Super Clinic	Has the Department and Sorell Integrated Health come to a mutual agreement with regard to the Terms of the Deed of Mutual Termination for the promised GP Super Clinic for Sorell? a) If not, please explain why not; b) If a mutual agreement has been reached, can you please provide a copy of the document (Terms of the Deed of Mutual Termination).	Written QoN
5	5	Bushby	Sorell GP Super Clinic	According to an answer provided following Additional Estimates, Sorell Integrated Health still owed \$570,000 to the Commonwealth. Can you please confirm: a) That \$570,000 is still the amount to be repaid? b) That is has been repaid; c) The date that it was repaid? d)Will that money be redirected back into improving health services in Sorell? If so, please explain how.	Written QoN
6	5	Bushby	Sorell GP Super Clinic	a) With regard to the Primary Health Care Infrastructure Grant and ITA for \$2 million - how many applications for funding were received? b) Have the successful applicants been advised? c) Can you please detail how many applicants were successful, and how much they were allocated? d) If applicants haven't been advised, when do you anticipate you may be able to advise them? e) When is the money likely to start flowing? f) When can the community expect to see the improved health services as a result of these grants?	Written QoN
7	2	Fierravanti-Wells	Dementia Drugs	How much is currently being spent to dementia drugs?	CA 102 - 31/05/2012
8	2	Fierravanti-Wells	Payments to Pharmacists	Under the arrangements for PBS reform, pharmacists are paid a premium for dispensing a premium-free brand. Can you tell us the payments to pharmacists under this measure to date by year?	CA 104 - 31/05/2012
9	13	Bushby	Voluntary Dental Gap Year Program	In relation to the newly implemented Voluntary Dental Gap Year Program, can the Department state whether they have done any forecasting on how this will affect: a) Public waiting lists b) Dentists/Graduates relocating into rural areas. c) Can the Department provide a reason as to why it chose to extend the deadline of the tender process, after the deadline had arrived? d) Given the short time-lines for the Voluntary Dental Gap Year to be implemented, can the Department state with absolute confidence that this factor will not influence the functionality and quality of this program?	Written QoN

10	2	Heffernan	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme	Two important evergreening patents have been invalidated, one only a few weeks ago (May 2012) when the High Court of Australia refused leave to appeal over a second evergreening patent for the drug venlafaxine. The trade mark of this drug is EFEXOR XR. The cost of this evergreening patent to the PBS has been estimated to be around the \$198 million mark. Pfizer, the patent owner, gave an undertaking to the Federal Court that if the patent was invalidated that it would cover the cost to the PBS during the course of the injunction, which was granted in June 2009 and withdrawn in November 2011. That cost, just for the period of 29 months, is some \$79 million. a) Has DoHA taken steps to recover the \$79 million from Pfizer? And if so what steps and if not why not, please provide details and an update? b) Does DoHA plan on trying to recover the \$198 million it has overpaid Pfizer as a result of the evergreening patent which apparently extended the period of patent protection illegally for over 3 years? If yes, what is the update/timetable for recovery, please provide details? If not why not, please provide details?	Written QoN
11	2	Heffernan	Pharmacutical Benefits Scheme	In 2011, IP Australia granted a drug company an extension of time in which to apply for a patent term extension - the applicable extension of time was approximately 10 years. At the time of the delegate's decision, the patent which is the subject of a patent term extension, which effectively increases the period of a patent monopoly in the case of pharmaceutical substances by up to 5 years giving pharmaceutical patents a potential maximum period of patent protection of 25 years, had been the subject of patent litigation which went all the way to the High Court of Australia. The end result of that litigation was that although the patent's validity was mostly upheld, the patent term extension which had been granted by IP Australia, was held to be invalid. Subsequently, the patent expired and so generic pharmaceutical companies began, as they are perfectly entitled once the patent monopoly is no longer operative, to market generic versions of the previously patented medicine. However, the day before the patent expired the patentee applied for a 10 year extension so as to be able to apply for a second patent term extension (the first being invalidated) taking the period of patent protection to December 2012. In effect, the time within which the patentee could apply for a patent term	Written QoN
12	14	Heffernan	UNEP Global Binding Mercury Instrument	a) Could the Department provide budget estimations for investigations into the effects of widespread mercury pollution on the Australian population over the next 10 years? If not, why not? b) Can the Department identify which current health standards will need to be adapted or amended to comply with technical guidelines (now in their 7th revision) of the Globally Binding Mercury Instrument and the projected costs of this work? If not, why not - please provide details? c) Can the Department outline its public health information and training programs that will be introduced following the finalisation of the Globally Binding Mercury Instrument and the projected cost of these programs? If not, please provide details?	Written QoN
13	14	Heffernan	UNEP Global Binding Mercury Instrument	a) Can the Department provide the Departmental Plan that outlines the process to test indigenous Australians for mercury contamination, on a national scale? If not, why not, please provide details? b) Can the Department provide the budget for the next 10 years for actions to make sure that indigenous communities are not living in mercury contaminated areas, are not eating mercury contaminated foods, and are not drinking mercury and/or arsenic contaminated water? If not, why not, please provide details.	Written QoN
14	11	Boyce	Mindfulness and Mental Health	a) Is the department aware of compelling research that demonstrates that mindfulness and mindful mediation has a dramatically positive impact in reducing stress, anxiety, depression and other mental illnesses? b) Does the department have any programs that promote the health benefits of mindfulness? c) Is the department doing anything to increase awareness of the value of mindfulness and mindful mediation given that it can have such a dramatic effect on a person's health?	Written QoN

15	1	Boyce	Hand Hygiene	Information on hand hygiene in public hospitals has been made available, on the MyHospitals website. The website uses an interim national benchmark of 70% to present how often hand hygiene is correctly performed. The benchmark has been set by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Heath Care. Across 233 major public hospitals, about half were above the national benchmark, just over 30% were similar to the benchmark and almost 19% were below the benchmark. As good hand hygiene is one of the most effective ways to minimise the risk of healthcare associated infections such as 'golden staph' what steps is the Commission taking to improve hand hygiene in public hospitals?	Written QoN
16	1	Boyce	Diabetes and mental illness	a) Is the department aware of the strong link between diabetes and mental illness and do you believe there is general awareness in the community of this link? b) How is the department raising awareness of the link between diabetes and mental illness?	Written QoN
17	1	Boyce	Diabetes and mental illness	There are 1.7 million Australians with diabetes and it is estimated there are approximately 700,000 Australians with undiagnosed diabetes. Given that further complications frequently arises with undiagnosed diabetes, what programs does the government have in place to alert people to the possibility of diabetes?	Written QoN
18	1	Boyce	Diabetes and mental illness	a) There is a strong correlation between obesity and type 2 diabetes. This is generally accepted by the general population but we know that people don't like to be told what's good or bad for them so they ignore the health messages and continue on with their lifestyles. b) There is evidence though that if the health message is delivered in pictures, this works and motivates people to change their eating habits. For example if there is a picture of a healthy breakfast together with a picture of an unhealthy breakfast containing dietary information, people who make the visual comparison are far more likely to choose the healthier option. Is the department aware of this and if so, is it changing its strategy on how to motivate people to live healthier lifestyles?	Written QoN
19	12	Boyce	Specialist palliative care nurses	a) If more nurses were trained in the palliative care speciality, do you believe this would result in fewer hospital presentations? b) If so, doesn't it make more sense to train more nurses, making them more accessible to terminally ill patients and therefore avoiding the need for terminally ill patients having to wait in emergency? c) Is palliative care nursing training included in the curriculum for undergraduate nurses? Do you believe it should be?	Written QoN
20	3	Boyce	Palliative Care Home Visits	Very few GPs undertake home visits. Do you believe that GPs would be more willing to pay home visits if there was a Medicare Benefits schedule item number for palliative care home visits?	Written QoN
21	12	Boyce	Palliative Care	a) Palliative care needs to be an important part of workplace development. What resources are available to support practitioners in relation to palliative care? b) I still hear stories where palliative care patients are in pain because specialists are treating the underlying condition but failing to treat the pain. What do you believe is the best way to educate specialists so that pain management is an intrinsic part of the patient's treatment?	Written QoN
22	1	Boyce	Palliative Care	On notice. Could you please advise what federal funding palliative care has received over the last 10 years in real terms, ie taking into account inflation and also the increase in population?	Written QoN

23	4	Boyce	The Dementia Initiative and the Reform Package	As part of the 2012-2013 Budget the Government announced a new package of \$268 million over 5 years to tackle dementia. a) Does this package build on the existing funding which was provided through the Dementia Initiative? b) Does the Government intend to continue to fund the major components of the dementia initiative over the period of the forward estimates for the next 3 years including:- Dementia Research Grants- Dementia Collaborative Research Centres- Dementia Behaviour Management Advisory Service- Dementia Training Study Centres- Community Support and Service Development Grants- Dementia Care Essentials- National Dementia Support Program	Written QoN
24	4	Boyce	Evans Head	a) It is more than 11 years since the RSL were allocated beds at Evans Head. This is a matter that is repeatedly raised in estimates. b) To date, there still has been no development; construction has not commenced and the uncertainty about the venture is creating tensions in the community. c) Could you please outline to me what the position is and when the matter is going to be finalised one way or the other?	Written QoN
25	4	Boyce	Benchmarking	No-one knows what the true cost of aged care is. The Productivity Commission in its recent report recommended a public benchmarking study be undertaken to determine aged care costs but this was has not been adopted by the government. How can you know whether funding is adequate given that the cost of aged care has not been determined?	Written QoN
26	4	Boyce	Call centre	A national call centre announced in the recent aged care package is to be established in 2013. Will this centre replace the aged care information line?	Written QoN
27	12	Boyce	Australian Standard Geographical Classification - Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA) Scheme	Is there any evidence to suggest that since the introduction of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification - Remoteness Area scheme, doctors in smaller towns across regional and rural Australia are finding they have to work longer hours because of colleagues transferring to less remote locations while still being eligible for the same incentives?	Written QoN
28	12	Boyce	Australian Standard Geographical Classification - Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA) Scheme	Rural GPs working in areas where the population is less than 2,000 get the same financial incentives as those who work in much larger areas such as suburbs of cities or larger regional areas. Why wouldn't this inequity serve as a disincentive for the health workforce to transfer to rural and remote areas?	Written QoN
29	12	Boyce	Clinical placements	a) Something that has been raised with me on a number of occasions is the limited capacity of the health system to support clinical placements which places limitations on graduate output. b) What steps is the government taking to address this?	Written QoN
30	12	Boyce	Complexity and fragmentation of incentive programs for the rural health workforce	a) Many health incentives and schemes for rural health professionals in Australia are fragmented, complex and difficult to navigate. With regards to incentive programs for the rural workforce, there is little coherence between state and federal levels and health professionals struggle to understand what incentives exist and whether they are eligible for them. What steps is the government taking to ensure this information is compiled and presented in an accessible and user friendly way so health professionals can immediately know what is and is not available to them? b) Do you accept the view that many health professionals could be missing out on incentives because its so difficult to work out what they're eligible for and this may prevent them from moving to rural areas because they don't have the information readily available to make informed decisions?	Written QoN
31	12	Boyce	Continuing education in rural and remote areas	There are limited professional educational development opportunities in rural and remote areas. What steps is the government taking to deliver a robust and well resourced continuing education system for health providers working in isolation?	Written QoN

32	12	Boyce	Shortage of paediatric ophthalmologists	In Australia, where 18.8 per cent of the population are aged below 15 years, there are only 20.3 full time equivalent paediatric ophthalmologists many of whom are nearing retirement age. There is no paediatric ophthalmologist in the ACT, Tasmania and very soon the second largest city in NSW - Newcastle will be without a paediatric ophthalmologist. What is the government doing to address the serious shortage of paediatric ophthalmologists in Australia?	Written QoN
33	14	Boyce	Infectious Disease & Immigration	a) As a result of a Freedom of Information application abridged copies of discussions between DOHA and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship have just been released. In that document there is reference to the number of inquiries that flowed between DIAC and Doha from the time the MOU was in place namely since September 2007. Since then 47 have come from DIAC to DOHA and 30 from DOHA to DIAC. How many of those 77 inquiries had anything to do with disability issues? b) In the same document there are references to issues that relate to serious and I quote "public health risk". Can you provide us the complete detail of any event that related to a "public health threat" emanating from migration matters since 2007? (Document reference) c) What disease outbreaks have occurred as a result of any part of our migration programs including those involving refugee or asylum seeker entries into Australia?	Written QoN
34	14	Boyce	Infectious Disease & Immigration	This document referred to in QoN E12-33 also goes on to say the following and I quote; (Document Reference) a) Has this issue been resolved, what advice was sought and what advice was given? b) In regards to Tuberculosis, how many cases have been detected in migrants, refugees or asylum seekers since September 2007? c) How were they detected? d) What health monitoring occurs in regard to migrants, refugees or asylum seekers in regard to tuberculosis?	Written QoN
35	14	Boyce	Infectious Disease & Immigration	Apparently DIAC expressed 'some concerns' 'about the comprehensiveness of the advice provided by DOHA. What was that about, what was it specifically in relation to and what was Doha's response to such criticism? (Document reference) DIAC indicated that there had also been some concerns raised internally about the comprehensiveness of the advice provided by DoHA - with DIAC seeking additional information where required so that it is able to ensure transparency and develop "evidence-based policy". For example, DIAC's Chief Medical Officer has sought additional information in the context of advice about prejudice of access issues (to be discussed at the next FAS level meeting). Additional information will also be sought shortly in relation to the practice of charging for TB treatment, given concerns that no national approach is in place in terms of TB treatment	Written QoN
36	14	Boyce	Infectious Disease & Immigration	In the same part of the document the following is stated; "Additional information will also be sort shortly in relation to the practice of charging for TB treatment, given concerns that no national approach is in place in terms of TB treatment." (Document Reference) DIAC indicated that there had also been some concerns raised internally about the comprehensiveness of the advice provided by DoHA - with DIAC seeking additional information where required so that it is able to ensure transparency and develop "evidence-based policy". For example, DIAC's Chief Medical Officer has sought additional information in the context of advice about prejudice of access issues (to be discussed at the next FAS level meeting). Additional information will also be sought shortly in relation to the practice of charging for TB treatment, given concerns that no national approach is in place in terms of TB treatment So is it true we don't have a national approach when it comes to the treatment of an infectious disease like TB?	Written QoN

37	1	Boyce	NICNAS -Industry dissatisfaction- Cost to Industry	a) Why did NICNAS commence advertising for several new positions in early April this year, when the Better Ministerial Partnership Review of the agency was still underway? b) Wouldn't this in effect preempt the outcomes of this important review by the Government?	Written QoN
38	1	Boyce	NICNAS -Industry dissatisfaction- Cost to Industry	a) What is the status of the agency's latest Cost Recovery Impact Statement issued late last year. b) Is it true that this Statement foreshadows a 23% increase in charges against businesses you regulate? c) What's the justification for such a large increase, in light of the difficulties facing businesses and the economy at present? d) Reforms arising from the 2008 Productivity Commission study of chemical regulation were also promised how many of these are still yet to be delivered? e) Its claimed by industry that some supposed reforms that have been delivered have been implemented in a way that increased the compliance burden on industry contrary to the intention of the supposed 'reforms and the recommendations of the Productivity Commission?	Written QoN
39	1	Boyce	NICNAS -Industry dissatisfaction- Cost to Industry	Given the Better Regulation Ministerial partnership review why is NICNAS still making policy decisions that have and I quote, significant implications into the future when the industry NICNAS serves has lost all confidence in the competence of NICNAS? (Note: such as matters in question 38 b) Existing Chemical Review program is another example where NICNAS ignored overseas models with a cost of \$9 million over 4 years all paid for by new industry charges))	Written QoN
40	1	Boyce	NICNAS -Industry dissatisfaction- Cost to Industry	a) How many overseas trips have staff of the agency's overseas taken in the last 12 months? b) How were these funded? c) More specifically are they funded through the charges NICNAS levees against industry? Given the cost-recovery arrangements are meant to be a form of user-pays, I'm interested to understand how this activity is directly helping the industry in Australia? d) Who approves the agency's overseas travel and which international policy activities it should focus on? Is there a process to ensure the agency takes forward whole-of-government policy positions into these international forums?	Written QoN
41	12	Boyce	English Tests & Immigrant Doctors	a) In the last five years how many doctors wishing to practice in Australia have failed the English test? b) In the last five years how many times have changes been made to those English tests? c) Who actually conducts those tests? Who is responsible for them? d) Who made those changes and why? e) Why is the Medical Board of Australia in control of these procedures when they have a clear conflict of interest as to their outcomes and which have nothing to do with their primary area of competence? f) Have the English tests applied by the Board been validated by any independent body with expertise in this area? g) These tests have repeatedly been described over many years as, unfair, expensive, unnecessary, onerous, adhoc, bureaucratic and subject to constant change? h) Are doctors who fail them told in detail as to why they failed? i) What procedures are in place to provide feedback? j) Are these testing procedures transparent? k) Does perfect English come before medical competence when assessing overseas doctors wanting to work in Australia? I) We are aware of at least two doctors, one who worked here for 25 years and another who worked in rural Australia for	Written QoN
42	0	Boyce	Flexible Funding	ten years who both lost their registration as it was decided their English was not up to scratch. How a)How many of the successful grant recipients were already in receipt of Departmental funding? b) How many separate funding initiatives have been combined with the new Flexible Fund arrangements? c) Are the funds for these initiatives quarantined for these respective initiatives or has that money now gone into a central, competitive pool thereby cancelling earlier government commitments? d) What are the policy priorities for each of the flexible funds? e) Against what criteria were funding applications assessed? f) What was the rationale for the due date for applications being on the last working day before Christmas? Did any assessment of the applications occur between Christmas and New Year?	Written QoN

43	5	Fierravanti-Wells	General Practice Education and	What is the process of accreditation for supervision of registrars?	CA 32 - 31/05/2012
4.4	-	Figures (anti Malla	Training Ltd General Practice Education and	How much funding is currently provided per registrar for training per year and across the course of	CA 22 24/05/2042
44	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Training Ltd	their training?	CA 33 - 31/05/2012
45	5	Fierravanti-Wells	General Practice Education and Training Ltd	How many additional supervisors have been recruited to the program in the last 12 months?	CA 33 - 31/05/2012
46	5	Fierravanti-Wells	General Practice Education and Training Ltd	Can you give us projections in relation to demand for GP training places over the next 5 to 10 years?	CA 33 - 31/05/2012
47	5	Fierravanti-Wells	General Practice Education and Training Ltd	Please provide any projections on the availability of supervisors for GP training places over the next 5 to 10 years?	CA 33 - 31/05/2012
48	5	Fierravanti-Wells	General Practice Education and Training Ltd	What are the different approaches to ensuring there are a sufficient number of supervisors?	CA 33 - 31/05/2012
49	5	Fierravanti-Wells	General Practice Education and Training Ltd	Are there framework documents for measuring quality in training of general practitioners? If so, please provide.	CA 33 - 31/05/2012
50	5	Fierravanti-Wells	General Practice Education and Training Ltd	Have you had any interaction with the performance authority in relation to the role they could have for measuring the quality of clinical training?	CA 34 - 31/05/2012
51	1	Furner	Smoking Bans	What sorts of advice does the Department provide the states in terms of those areas - indoor, outdoor and car?	CA 36 - 31/05/2012
52	1	Furner	Smoking Bans	What states have implemented those bans on indoor, outdoor and cars?	CA 36 - 31/05/2012
53	1	Furner	Smoking Bans	Apparently in QLD here have been 158 fines in six months for people that have been fined for smoking in cars with adolescents. If you are able to provide that information, I would appreciate that.	CA 37 - 31/05/2012
54	1	Furner	Smoking Bans	I also understand there has been scientific evidence that clearly demonstrates in relation to ETS - and this was around in 1998 - that there were 23 deaths from environmental tobacco smoke in children aged 14 or younger. Can you concur with those sorts of statistics? (answer to include Ms Halton's offer to include details on the fact that scientifically you cannot necessarily smell that tobacco smoke).	CA 37 - 31/05/2012
55	1	Furner	Smoking Bans	In providing that information could you also identify any states or state health departments that are considering reversing the bans in particular on smoking in cars?	CA 38 - 31/05/2012
56	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Plain Packaging	What about when it (ie date that Plain Packaging Legislation) was passed in the Senate?	CA 44 - 31/05/2012
57	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Plain Packaging	Could I draw your attention to the portfolio budget statement at page 63, which sets the target for the reduction of smoking rates over the next 4 years. If the figure is 15.9 percent, according to the table, haven't we already met the 2012-13 target? It tells us that it is 16.4 per cent and then the year after it is 15.6 per cent. Is the department setting targets that have already been met?	CA 45 - 31/05/2012
58	1	Di Natale	Bowel Cancer Screening	Are we doing anything specifically to focus on ensuring that people in rural and remote communities also benefit from the funds that have gone into the expansion of bowel cancer screening?	CA 73 - 31/05/2012
59	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Smoking statistics	How many people smoke? (Queries in relation to ABS numbers/ ANPHA numbers.)	CA 87 - 31/05/2012
60	0	Furner	Voluntary Redundancies	Are there any stats on the median age of those people who have accepted voluntary redundancies - on average?	CA 14 - 30/05/2012
	Ü				

62	0	Fierravanti-Wells	Social media applications	a) Can you take on notice the cost of those blogs or social media applications b) And the components of those expenditures. c) And what is the cost of in-house blogs, compared to outsourced blogs. d) Do you do them all in-house?	CA 20 - 30/05/2012
63	0	Siewert	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers	Are you also focussing on general community Aboriginal health workers and trying to encourage more people into that specific area? I will have to take on notice whether we have an Aboriginal health worker in the circumstances you are describing.	CA 29 - 01/06/2012
64	1	Brown	Health outcomes of LGBTI population	You will provide me with any information that you have of any research that has been conducted?	CA 77 - 31/05/2012
65	1	Fierravanti-Wells	PCHC	Since that time, there has been further reference in minutes of meetings with the Parliamentary Secretary as part of the normal activities of that committee.	CA 80 - 31/05/2012
66	1	Fierravanti-Wells	RU486	Please provide the number of medical practitioners who are currently authorised to supply RU486 for the termination of pregnancy, broken down by state and territory. Please table it.	CA 47 - 31/05/2012
67	1	Fierravanti-Wells	RU486	Please provide the number of medical practitioners who are currently authorised to supply RU486.	CA 47 - 31/05/2012
68	1	Fierravanti-Wells	RU486	Please provide the total number of patients for whom RU486 has been prescribed broken down by State and territory.	CA 48 - 31/05/2012
69	1	Fierravanti-Wells	RU486	With regard to the 2010 death of a patient following the administration of RU486: a)Please provide a copy of the treatment protocol used by that authorised prescriber with the application for approval to supply the drug. b) Is the authorised prescriber still authorised to supply RU486? c) Has there been a review of the treatment protocols used by that practitioner? d) Has there been any change to the treatment protocols used by that practitioner? e) Has there been a review of the treatment protocols for other practitioners?	CA 49 - 31/05/2012
70	1	Boswell	RU486	Does the TGA now hold any information about the death of women following the administration of RU486 elsewhere in the world? Can you undertake to get those details?	CA 49 - 31/05/2012
71	1	Boswell	RU486	In which states or territories have ethics committees approved protocols which allow the vaginal administration of Mifopristol in association with the use of RU486?	CA 49 - 31/05/2012
72	1	Boswell	RU486	Is the TGA aware that the FDA strongly recommends against the vaginal administration of Mifopristol in association with the use of RU486?	CA 49 - 31/05/2012
73	1	Boswell	RU486	In which states or territories have ethics committees approved protocols which do not include the prophylactic use of antibiotics?	CA 49 - 31/05/2012
74	1	Boswell	RU486	Is the TGA aware that the FDA strongly recommends the use of those particular antibiotics in association with the use of Mifopristol for medical abortions?	CA 49 - 31/05/2012
75	1	Boswell	RU486	Have the treatment protocols of RU486 been submitted as part of each application for authorisation to supply RU486? Please supply copies of each of those protocols?	CA 49 - 31/05/2012
76	1	Boswell	RU486	Can you provide copies of each of the summaries of adverse events? - NOTE that Senator Boswell happy to get summary of all adverse events?	CA 50 - 31/05/2012
77	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Portfolio Budget Statement	In relation to page 67 of the Portfolio Budget Statement: a) In 2011-12, how many alleged breaches has the TGA been notified of? b) What percentage of alleged breaches did the TGA assess within 10 working days of notification? c) For what percentage of alleged breaches did the TGA provide an appropriate response - not just initiate - within those 10 working days? d) Where can the various stages for an 'appropriate' response be found?	CA 50 - 31/05/2012
78	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Contaminated Albumin	Were any batches that may have had lower levels of contaminant actually released? Please provide details of relevant batch numbers and dates.	CA 53 - 31/05/2012
79	1	Fierravanti-Wells	National Health Reform Agreement	Is there an estimation of what these other funding streams currently are per annum?	CA 31 - 30/05/2012
80	1	Fierravanti-Wells	New Funding Model	How will you assess the impact of the new funding model and how frequently will you report on it?	CA 31 - 30/05/2012
81	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Mental Health Working Group	Who are the members of the mental health working group?	CA 32 - 30/05/2012

82	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Grants	Following evidence about the Agency's two grant rounds (Community Level Initiatives and Research Grants), Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked: a) How many, if any, had received previous Commonwealth funding? b) Could you take on notice, for each one of the grant recipients, how much money they got from the Commonwealth in the past? Dr Studdert noted that in the case of the research grants it would be very difficult because researchers have been receiving funding over many years and they join in different configurations to receive funding. Senator Fierravanti-Wells then asked: c) Give me a list to start off with and we will have a look at that.	CA 83 - 31/05/2012
83	1	Fierravanti-Wells	National Preventive Health Research Strategy	Following evidence about the development of the National Preventive Health Research Strategy, Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked: Tell me a little about how you chose the organisations to consult with. Did you put it out there? Did they come to you? Tell me a little more about it¿And give me the ambit of stakeholders that you consulted with.	CA 86 - 31/05/2012
84	2	Siewert	Approval for Aboriginal Health Service (AHS) to supply PBS	a) When will the response to the Recommendations of the Community Affairs Reference Committee be available? b) What actions would need to be taken for an AHS being able to obtain an Approval to Supply PBS medicines to its clients using a Section 94 Approval - normally restricted to hospitals. The work of an AHS is more akin to a hospital than a retail pharmacy and should thus be considered more of a "hospital outpatient function" than have to compete in retail; space with a "community" pharmacy.	Written QoN
85	1	Siewert	Sudden Cardiac Arrest	a) Is the Department of Health aware that the ABS is not classifying sudden cardiac arrest deaths correctly (e.g. epilepsy unspecific rather than SCA)? b) What steps is the Dept taking to ensure accurate statistics about SCA are collected and recorded?	Written QoN
86	4	Siewert	Aged Care Quality Agency	a) When will ACQA be formed? b) What will be its relationship with the Department? c) Are they mechanisms in place to ensure its independence? d) Will the Implementation Council play a role developing the detail of the regulatory role and operating procedures of ACQA? a) What is the role/purpose of the RIC? b) Will it be able to direct, monitor and review reform	Written QoN
87	4	Siewert	Aged Care Reform Implementation Council	implementation? Or is it simply advisory? c) Has the membership of the RIC been decided? If not, can you tell me what proportion you expect to have of: reps from the sector; independent experts; consumers? d) What will the relationship be between the RIC and the Transition Office?e) How will the \$15.8m for the RIC/Transition Office be used? Will some of it be dedicated towards supporting sector input and consumer engagement?	Written QoN
88	4	Siewert	Aged Care Gateway	a) What is the relationship between the national assessment framework and the Gateway? b) Will the national assessment framework assess people for the Home Support program? c) How will the Gateway operate when it is fully operational? d) What is the proposed method for working with the sector in developing quality indicators and a rating system, which for the My Aged Care website?	Written QoN
89	4	Siewert	Aged Care Workforce	a) What increase in productivity, and thus resources freed up for increased wages, is expected from the aged care reforms? b) If no productivity gain is expected, how does the Department expect employers to fund wage increases?	Written QoN
90	4	Siewert	Older Australians and Preventative Health Program	What is the role of the Preventative Health Program in meeting the needs of older people?	Written QoN
91	4	Siewert	Older Australians and Medicare Locals	How will Medicare Locals prioritise better health care for older people?	Written QoN
92	4	Siewert	Quality and Accreditation Process Harmonisation	What opportunities does the Department see for simplification and harmonisation of quality and accreditation processes across aged care and other accreditation and quality process that are required by the government?	Written QoN

93	7	Siewert	Consistency with the National Disability Agreement	To what extent the Hearing Services Act is compliant with the National Disability Agreement as endorsed by COAG. Given that OHS focuses on device inputs while the NDA focuses on client outcomes, have you identified any areas of inconsistency? If yes, what are you doing to address those?	Written QoN
94	7	Siewert	Hearing Aid Vouchers	Has the voucher system has set up incentives for service providers to pursue people who technically, but not psychologically, qualify for a government funded hearing aid? If yes, what are you doing to address this problem?	Written QoN
95	12	McKenzie	Rural Health Workforce	Rural Health Workforce Australia has called for changes to the way the department uses the Australian Standard Geographical Classification - Remoteness Areas in relation to encouraging health professionals to work in areas with the greatest need. The RWHA CEO Greg Sam says that the focus should switch form location to need 'We would prefer to see a more sophisticated approach that takes account of actual health needs and incentivises doctors to work in these communities'. a) What is your reaction to this suggested new approach? b) Would the department consider RHWA's suggestion?	Written QoN
96	5	McKenzie	Medicare Locals	a) How much funding will the Loddon Mallee Murray Medicare Local receive? b) How much of that funding will be spent on actual service delivery?	Written QoN
97	0	McKenzie	Carbon Tax	a) Has the department modelled the impact of the carbon tax on their running costs? b) If so, what was the outcome?c) If not, why, not? d) How much electricity does the department use?	Written QoN
98	1	Back	Wind Farms	Finally, I have a number of documents. They are numbered. They relate to this activity, public health and medical research inquiries, appeal decisions and later scientific evidence. I do have them numbered-2010/012940. Chair, I would seek your direction. Can these documents be made available to the committee? Given respect for time, rather than read them out, might I be able, through the chair or the secretariat, to give them to you and ask whether you can make them available to the committee?	CA 82 - 31/05/2012
99	0	McKenzie	Staffing	a) How many ongoing full-time staff were recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff? b) How many ongoing part-time staff were recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff? c) How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these positions? d)This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract, what is the average length of their employment period and how many have been extended beyond their original contract period? e) What is the average time taken to recruit to a new or vacant position in your department/agency this financial year? f) How much has the department/agency spent on recruitment services in the financial year to date? g) Please supply cost of advertising positions and detail costs of any services from recruitment agencies.	Written QoN
100	0	McKenzie	Staffing	a) Please provide details of what staffing changes have occurred in each department/agency from the 2012-13 Budget. b) Provide a list of additional and/or redundant positions, the classification and the program those positions are part of or have been taken from.	Written QoN
101	0	McKenzie	Staffing	a)Please list the SES positions you have in your department/agency in this financial year to date. b)Identify the different levels and how many are permanent positions.	Written QoN
102	0	McKenzie	Staffing	a) Will there be any training after the 2012 calendar year for 2012 Graduates? b) If yes, please provide details including costs and what the training is.	Written QoN
103	0	McKenzie	Staffing	a) What was the cost for recruiting 2012 Graduates? b) Please itemise and detail costs.	Written QoN

104	0	McKenzie	Government Advertising	What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date? Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.	Written QoN
105	0	McKenzie	Government Advertising	Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item. a) Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item. b) Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising campaigns by Australian	Written QoN
106	0	McKenzie	Government Advertising	Government Departments and Agencies? Provide the details for each advertising item. c) Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communications services. d) What advertising - Campaign and Non-Campaign - and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or planning to undertake? a) What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. b) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. c)What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. d) For each Minister and Parliamentary	Written QoN
107	0	McKenzie McKenzie	Hospitality and Entertainment Board Appointments	Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. e) What is the Department/Agency planning on spending on hospitality? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. f) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. g) What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. h) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. i) Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its List all of the boards within this portfolio, including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio? Please	Written QoN Written QoN
				detail any board appointments for this financial year to date.	
109	0	McKenzie	Freedom of Information	a) Has the Department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests? b) What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date? c) How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? d) Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why? e) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this financial year to date?	Written QoN

110	0	McKenzie	Community Cabinet Meetings	a) What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this financial year to date? b) How many Community Cabinet meetings has each Minister attended? List date and location. c) How many Ministerial Staff travelled with each Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Ministerial Staff attend? List date and location. d) How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Ministers for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. e) Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location. What was the total cost to the Department and the Minister's office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?	Written QoN
111	0	McKenzie	Reviews	For this financial year to date: a) How many Reviews are being undertaken? b) What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded? c) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? d) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? e) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? f) What reviews are planned? When will each of these reviews commence and be concluded?	Written QoN
112	0	McKenzie	Consultancies	a) How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies. b) How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.	Written QoN
113	0	McKenzie	Media Monitoring	a) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date? b) Which agency or agencies provided these services? c) What is the estimated budget to provide these same services for the year 2011-12? What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?	Written QoN
114	0	McKenzie	Social Media	Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and usage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since publication of the Australian Public Service Commission's Circular 2012/1: Revisions to the Commission's guidance on making public comment and participating online? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue. If no, please explain why not.	Written QoN

115	0	McKenzie	Contractors	For this financial year to date: a) Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). b) Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). c) Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). d) Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). e) Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). f) Has the department/agency ever employed lkon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). g) Has the department/agency ever a) Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants	Written QoN
116	0	McKenzie	Discretionary Grants	for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. b) Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants? Please provide an explanation where interim requirements were not met.	Written QoN
117	0	McKenzie	Commissioned Reports	a) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. b) How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? c) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?	Written QoN
118	0	McKenzie	Payment of Accounts	a) For this financial year to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)? b) If not, why not? Provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached. c) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? d) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?	Written QoN
119	0	McKenzie	Stationery Requirements	a) How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) this financial year to date? b) What is the department/agency's stationery costs for the financial year to date? c) What was the department/agency's stationery costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11?	Written QoN
120	0	McKenzie	Media Subscriptions	a) Has there been any change to your pay TV subscription since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels. What is the cost for this financial year to date? b) Has there been any change to your newspaper subscriptions since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers. What is the cost for this financial year to date? c) Has there been any change to your magazine subscriptions since the 2011-12 Additional Estimates (February 2012)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines. What is the cost for this financial year to date?	Written QoN

121	0	McKenzie	Travel Costs	a) For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). b) For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). c) Are the Government's Lowest Practical Fare travel policy for Domestic Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/10) and Best Fare of the Day for International Air Travel (Finance Circular No. 2009/11) guidelines being followed? How is this monitored? If the guidelines are not being followed, please explain why. d) Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships. e) When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide	Written QoN
122	0	McKenzie	Legal Costs	a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs. b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs. c) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs. d) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.	Written QoN
123	0	McKenzie	Education Expenses	a) What are the department/agency's guidelines on study? Please provide details. b) For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.	Written QoN
124	0	McKenzie	Executive Coaching and Leadership Training	a) In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date: i) Total spending on these services. ii) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification. iii) The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). iv) The names of all service providers engaged. b) For each service purchased from a provider listed under (iv. above), please provide: i) The name and nature of the service purchased. ii) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based. iii) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification. iv) The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). v) The total amount spent on the service. vi) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)c) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: i) The location used ii) The number of employees who	Written QoN

125	0	McKenzie	Media Training	In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date: a) i) Total spending on these services. ii) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification. iii) The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). iv) The names of all service providers engaged b) For each service purchased form a provider listed under iv above, please provide: i) The name and nature of the service purchased ii) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based iii) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) iv)The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) v)The total amount spent on the service vi) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) c) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: i) The location used ii) The number of employees who took part on each	Written QoN
126	0	McKenzie	Paid parental leave	a) Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? b) For this financial year to date list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these	Written QoN
127	0	McKenzie	Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretary	payments. a) For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for. b) For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for. c) For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for designed to better suit the needs of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for, and how many employees attended and their classification.	Written QoN
128	0	McKenzie	Corporate Cars	Please update if there have been any changes since Additional Estimates 2011-12 (February 2012) (E12-106): a) How many cars are owned or leased by each department and agency in your portfolio? Where is the car/s located? b) What is the car/s used for? c) What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date? d) How far did each car travel this financial year to date?"	Written QoN
129	0	McKenzie	Taxi Costs	a) How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency. b) What are the reasons for taxi costs?	Written QoN
130	0	McKenzie	Corporate Credit Cards	a) Please provide a breakdown of the number of corporate credit card holders by APS classification level. b) Please update if there have been any changes since Additional Estimates 2011-12 (February 2012) (E12-108): What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused? How is corporate credit card use monitored? c) What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered? d) Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken. e) What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?	Written QoN
131	0	McKenzie	Printing of documents	Does the department/agency print any hard copies of reports/statements/papers they produce? If yes, please list how many copies, where they are delivered and the cost.	Written QoN

132	0	McKenzie	Provision of equipment	a) For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided and the costs. b) For departments/agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what are the ongoing costs for this financial year to date? What were the running costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11?	Written QoN
133	0	McKenzie	Provision of equipment	Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive (not an inclusive list)) provided to department/agency staff? If yes provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it.	Written QoN
134	0	McKenzie	Provision of equipment	Please update if there have been any changes since Additional Estimates 2011-12 (February 2012) (E12-109): Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to who it is provided.	Written QoN
134	0	McKenzie	Electricity purchasing	Provide an update of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement. Provide details of when this was entered into and the length of the agreement. What were the department/agency electricity costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11? What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date?	Written QoN
136	0	McKenzie	Information for the Australian Greens and Independents	i) How is such work and/or information requests commissioned? ii) What work/information requests have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each work produced. iii) Has any such work and/or information requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details including what the work and/or information requests were and why it could not be undertaken. iv) How long is spent undertaking work and/or information requests for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification. b) Does the department/agency provide any information and/or undertake any requests for the Independents? If yes, please provide the following information: i) How is such work and/or information requests commissioned? ii) What work/information requests have been undertaken? Provide details, including who the work/information was for and a copy of each work produced. iii) Has any such work and/or information requests been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details including what the work and/or information requests were, who they were from, who they were for and why it could not be undertaken. iv) How long is spent undertaken work and/or information requests for the Independents? Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders in the last 12 months? If yes, provide details	Written QoN
137	0	McKenzie	Shredders	of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.	Written QoN
138	0	McKenzie	Health related claims	a) Could you detail the types of evidence FSANZ uses to develop food standards and regulations? b) Can you please outline the scientific evidence used in the decision to label sugar an ""at risk"" nutrient in proposal P293? Please describe the policy alternatives considered, such as self-substantiation of low-level health claims. c) Has the Nutrient Profiling Scoring Criteria (NPSC) been included in the scope of your stakeholder consultation in the last 5 years? If yes, please confirm when and detail how industry feedback has been incorporated into any revisions of the NPSC. d) With respect to P293, has a regulatory impact statement and economic analysis on changes to the food industry been prepared? If yes, could you please detail the findings and recommendations.	Written QoN
139	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	What is the total amount of base level funding that is allocated to the MHNIP for 2012-13. That is, what the base level of funding of the program is that the \$17.6 million is in addition to.	CA 40 - 30/05/2012
140	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	What is the total annual expenditure for the program in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11.	CA 41 - 30/05/2012

141	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	What is the projected base funding for the program for 2015-16.	CA 41 - 30/05/2012
142	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	What is the average yearly amount that organisations registered in the program have received over the past five years (2007-08 to 2011-12)- a) Typical small organisations; b) Typical medium organisations; and c) Typical large organisations	CA 41 - 30/05/2012
143	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	How many individual patients received services under the program, each year, over the past five years. Could you please include, as information in that answer, what the actual cost was?	CA 42 - 30/05/2012
144	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	How many MHNIP sessions has Medicare paid for each year in the period 2007-08 to 2011-12?	CA 42 - 30/05/2012
145	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	a) How many mental health nurses were registered with Medicare under the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program on an annual basis over the past five years? b) How many general practitioners have used the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program on an annual basis over the past five years? c) How many psychiatrists have used the program on an annual basis over the past five years? d) How many divisions of general practice were registered in the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program on an annual basis over the past five years? e) How many Medicare Locals are currently registered in the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program? f) How many headspace centres are currently registered in the program? g) Is headspace defined as an eligible organisation under the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program?	CA 41 - 30/05/2012
146	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	How will an organisation's existing level of activity be determined?	CA 46 - 30/05/2012
147	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	Was information also sent to the mental health nurses, as well as the organisations, from the Department of Human Services? [Letter from Department of Human Services of 22 May 2012]. Please clarify who that documentation on 22 May went out to. I mean the nurses who are actually providing the services.	CA 47 - 30/05/2012
148	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	How will the number of nurses in the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program be monitored?	CA 47 - 30/05/2012
149	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	What notice will Medicare give to organisations if they will not be paid for sessions above a particular level? If they have gone above their existing service level, however that is identified, what notice will be given to organisations in that case?	CA 47 - 30/05/2012
150	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurses Initiative Program	What is the average hourly cost of doctors, psychologists and psychiatrists.	CA 47 - 30/05/2012
151	11	Fierravanti-Wells	EPPIC	In relation to the EPPIC allocation, the \$222 million over the five years for the 12 new EPPICs? According to the figures, about \$9.2 million was allocated in 2011-12. I take it from your answer that this money has been allocated but it has not been spent? How is this money being allocated and on which EPPICs?	CA 51 - 30/05/2012

152	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Multicultural Mental Health	a) Did you investigate whether the Queensland Transcultural Mental Health Centre was able to enter into the consortium, given the parameters of its charter? b) I would appreciate it if you could advise me if that is the case-whether the appropriate investigation was undertaken before the Queensland Transcultural Mental Health Centre, as the leader of the consortia, was awarded that project. c) What influence did Dr Groves have, given his position and his interaction with DOHA and various other mental health bodies? Did he have any influence on or any involvement in this project having its funding taken away from it and reallocated to consortia which he was representing as a lead agency? d) I am not satisfied with what I have seen on the public record about that process and I would like to understand Dr Groves's involvement, if any. Did he have any involvement at all in this process? I also would like to understand, regarding the review that was undertaken, who instigated that review that was being undertaken? e) But I understand that the organisation [NSW Western Sydney Local Health District] was told, and if you could clarify for me what interaction there was between the department and the relevant New South Wales agency, that it was effectively-I will not say 'precluded', but there	CA 55 - 30/05/2012
153	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Mental Health First Aid	a) Could you give me some information in relation to the mental health first aid training, which will form the basis for training front-line workers in suicide risk assessment and response? As I understand it, only one of the eight models deals with suicide and there is almost nothing on risk assessment. I am going to the adequacy of this. If it is supposed to be first aid training which will form the basis for training front-line workers in suicide risk, assessment and response, what is the adequacy of this model, considering that only one of the modules out of eight deals with suicide? b) [The program was developed based on some detailed consultation with both training providers and those industry sectors.] Whom did you consult?	CA 56 - 30/05/2012
154	1	Di Natale	Substance Misuse Service Delivery Grants fund and the NGOTGP	a) With regard to, for example, ISIS Primary Care, can you give me a sense as to which of those categories that organisation falls into? b) Were you concerned that they were not delivering services satisfactorily or do you understand that there were other services available that had been funded? [SC response: My understanding in that situation is that the services that were being provided by that organisation will be picked up through services provided by other funded organisations.] c) Can you give me an outline of who those other organisations might be?	CA 39 - 31/05/2012
155	1	Siewert	Substance Misuse Service Delivery Grants fund and the NGOTGP	[Priority one of the fund is about capacity-building activities, sport and drug and alcohol services. So it is not specific to Indigenous services. In 2011-12, WA had 11 organisations funded to deliver 11 projects, at a cost of \$1.7 million. Under priorities two and three of the fund, which are Indigenous specific-they are either for Indigenous organisations or for organisations that provide services to Indigenous people. Under those two priorities in 2011-12 \$7.2 million is being allocated to 12 organisations.] Could you take on notice the question of the names of the organisations and the projects?	CA 31 - 01/06/2012
156	1	Siewert	Substance Misuse Service Delivery Grants fund and the NGOTGP	[We did not go out for a funding round for priorities two and three. They are under three-year funding agreements. 2011-12 is the first year and it has two more years to run] Could you provide the list of organisations and projects on notice as with the previous round of funding?	CA 32 - 01/06/2012
157	1	Siewert	Petrol Sniffing	a) You may not have that information with you, so could you provide on notice what the latest round of funding is under that specific program [petrol sniffing], not only to WA but to other states as well?b) I am particularly interested in the health services, to complement the rollout. Could you take that on notice.	CA 32 - 01/06/2012
158	11	Siewert	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy	How much has been allocated to Menzies for the development of a strategy?	CA 36 - 01/06/2012

159	11	Siewert	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy	You would be aware of the Yiriman project from KALACC in the Kimberley? Has any funding been allocated to their culturally based programs? You would be aware that they have had some very strong culturally based programs, and one of the criticisms of the way funding has been delivered in a lot of places, particularly in the Kimberley, has been that there are not enough culturally based programs being supported. I will put it on notice then. [If there is an additional specific component that you are asking about, I would need to take that on notice and check the detail of what we are delivering.]	CA 36 - 01/06/2012
160	11	Siewert	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy	Could you take on notice to provide us with a full list of the funding for the Kimberley for the projects, because I am aware that there has been a series of announcements. So could you just give us a really clear list of what has been funded, to whom and how much. [programs under the National suicide Prevention Program and TATS] This is not just in regard to mental health. You may be aware that-I understand there is a case to be	CA 37 - 01/06/2012
161	11	Scullion	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Strategy	argued that-there are many Indigenous males being held in jails in both Western Australia and the Northern Territory who have not actually been convicted of a crime. They are being held there effectively because of what has been alleged about their mental health. Someone is challenging, I understand-I do not have any more details than that-whether or not that is constitutional. I know that that case has not got anything to do with the Commonwealth; it is specifically to do with Western Australia and the Northern Territory. And I know we do not like to deal with hypotheticals. But I just wondered if you had considered the capacity to deal with these individuals, either in terms of accommodation or further support outside of the correctional system in both Western Australia and the Northern Territory should this High Court challenge be successful. Have you been following those processes? Is the government considering where they may need to provide support to the Territory and Western Australia in that regard? -Because it has only been reported today or very recently-perhaps you can just look at that on notice. If you have anything further to provide, you can do it I have a general question in regard to Opal fuel. We accept with most new things that we have to pay a research surcharge on them. They are a lot more expensive because they have been manufactured for a particular use. What is the differential in the subsidy? How much is the subsidy per litre, or	CA 37 - 01/06/2012 CA 40 - 01/06/2012
163	1	Scullion	Opal Fuel	however you work it out, and how long is that going to apply? On notice, I turn to government. I have little interest in a number of elements. I trust the government is doing its business. But in terms of the actual premium we pay for the fuel, it was certainly explained in the first instance that the reason it was more expensive was that it was offsetting the research in the original investment. On notice, can you provide any information around whether or not that is a consideration, given the period of time and the actual amount of money that is clearly a profit over what would have normally been the case. Has it been taken into consideration in this current contract that is about to be signed on 30 June?	CA 40 - 01/06/2012
164	13	Furner	Dialysis	In relation to the Red Undies Week launch, please provide statistics to show whether there has been a decline or an increase in dialysis.	CA 22 - 30/05/2012
165	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Organ donation	What is the difference between annual registrations rates i.e. registration on the Australian Organ Donation Register, and consent rates?	CA 22 - 30/05/2012
166	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Community awareness	What has been the total cost of producing the DonateLife Book of Life?	CA 22 - 30/05/2012
167	13	Di Natale	Organ donation	Modelling by the Organ and Tissue Authority indicates that 25 donors per million population in 2018 equates to 730 deceased organ donors. Is this correct?	CA 22 - 30/05/2012
168	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Marginal donors	How many organs have been donated annually from marginal donors? Are we seeing a growing number of Australians being saved by marginal organ donations?	CA 22 - 30/05/2012

169	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Community awareness	What culturally and linguistically diverse audiences (by language and location) has the Organ and Tissue Authority worked with to improve awareness of organ and tissue donation?	CA 22 - 30/05/2012
170	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Organ donation	What has been the number of potential donors (identified on a state by state basis) for each of the last ten years?	CA 22 - 30/05/2012
171	1	Brown	NHMRC Guidelines	a) What funding is allocated for clinical guideline development over the forward estimates? b) How are the decisions determined on which clinical guidelines get funded? c) How are the decisions made on the list of essential or priority guidelines? Who makes the decision? d) Who has responsibility for ensuring clinical guidelines are well implemented and widely available to those who should be using them to guide their clinical decisions? e) Is dedicated funding available to assist guideline developers with implementation? f) Has the NHMRC looked at reforming the current approach to guidelines prioritisation, funding and implementation? If so, has there been any external consultation? What has been the result of those deliberations? g) What is the average time it takes for guidelines to be approved by the NHMRC? h) What is the proportion of clinical guidelines submitted for NHMRC approval? i) What measures are being taken to look at the need for 'living' guidelines that can be updated rapidly after new research warrants a change in approach?	Written QoN
172	11	Wright	Mental Health - 2012-13 Budget	a) In last year's budget, \$2.2 billion dollars was allocated to various mental health reforms, some of which have been announced over the past year. I would like to hear about any new initiatives contained in the 2012-13 Budget. Can you list all the new mental health measures contained in this year's Budget? b) Can you please provide details of funding allocated under this year's Budget to those new initiatives? c) Can you please tell me that total amount allocated to mental health services under this year's Budget?	Written QoN
173	11	Wright	Mental Health - 2012-13 Budget	a) In the Treasurer's Budget overview, the Government says it is "investing \$61 billion in 2012 13 in Australia's health care system, an estimated 37 per cent increase on 2007 08 levels" and "an additional \$19.8 billion in reforms to public hospital funding over the period to 2019-20." Is this correct - does this year's Budget invest a total amount of \$61 billion into health services? b) Of this \$61 billion, can you tell me what percentage is directly going to mental health services? c) What is the percentage of the mental health allocation within the context of the overall health budget this year?	Written QoN
174	11	Wright	Mental Health - 2012-13 Budget	a) The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's 2011 Mental Health Services In Brief states that mental illness accounts for approximately 13% of the total burden of disease in Australia. Is this figure consistent with the Department's calculation as to the proportion that mental illness contributes to the total burden of disease in Australia? b) Is the current Budget allocation of funds to mental health services and programs commensurate to the contribution mental illness makes to the total burden of disease in Australia?	Written QoN
175	11	Wright	EPPIC	I am interested in the rollout and progress of the Early Psychosis Prevention and Intervention Centres (EPPICs). Can you please provide details? In particular, I am interested in hearing about: a) the total amount of funding that has been allocated to the establishment of EPPICs in the previous three Budgets (including this year's Budget); b) the total amount of money that has been expended to date on the rollout of EPPICs; c) How many EPPICs have been built, or where building has begun, throughout Australia; and d) If no centre has yet been built, when will that occur and why has it not occurred given that funding was first allocated in 2010?	Written QoN

176	11	Wright	Partner in Recovery Program	I am also very interested in the rollout and progress of the Partners in Recovery program. Can you please provide details? In particular, I am interested in hearing about: a) when this program was first established; b) the total amount of funding that was allocated to the Partners in Recovery program in last year's Budget and this year's Budget; c) the total amount of money that has been expended to date on the rollout of the Partners in Recovery program; d) How many people have received assistance under the Partners in Recovery program; and e) If no one has received assistance under this program, when will it start?	Written QoN
177	11	Wright	Mental Illness Program	In addition to the EPPICs and the Partners in Recovery program, what other programs and services are in place to assist people experiencing severe and persistent mental illness?	Written QoN
178	11	Wright	ATAPS	Can you please provide details of the total amount allocated to ATAPS under this year's Budget?	Written QoN
179	11	Wright	ATAPS	Can you please provide an update as to the rollout of ATAPS? For example: a) What is the geographical spread of these services? b) On average, how many sessions are provided to patients on an annual basis? c) Is ATAPS operating effectively and is it meeting the needs of specific groups such as people experiencing socio-economic disadvantage and/or people living in rural areas who are experiencing mild to medium forms of mental illness?	Written QoN
180	11	Wright	ATAPS	a) Are ATAPS services largely being delivered under sub-contract arrangements from Medicare Locals or Divisions of General Practice? b) If so, what proportion of ATAPS services are provided by Medicare Locals and Divisions of General Practice? c) How is the remaining percentage of ATAPs services being provided? d) What form of quality control is in place where ATAPS services are subcontracted to Medicare Locals and Divisions of General Practice? e) Has the Department established clinical guidelines and provided training for subcontractors offering services under ATAPs?	Written QoN
181	11	Wright	ATAPS	Can you please explain how funding is provided to Medicare Locals so that they can offer ATAPS? For example, are Medicare Locals given funding directly to recruit and assemble a team of relevant professionals, or are specific positions funded?	Written QoN
182	11	Wright	Suicide Prevention	a) Can you please provide an update on the total amount allocated in this year's budget towards suicide prevention programs? b) Can you please describe the programs and services that will benefit from these funds? c) Do any of these programs and services target high risk groups and if so please list the groups targeted? d) Are the programs and services funded under this year's Budget new or existing? e) Can you provide details of the annual amount allocated over the past five years' Budgets towards suicide prevention programs?	Written QoN
183	11	Wright	Suicide Prevention	The 2010 Senate Inquiry into Suicide produced the report The Hidden Toll: Suicide in Australia and made 42 recommendations. Can you tell me what work, if any, has been undertaken to implement recommendations of this report?	Written QoN
184	11	Wright	Suicide Prevention	Has any consideration been given to developing a uniform definition of suicide and to standardise coronial legislation and Police practices to improve state and territory reporting of suicide?	Written QoN
185	11	Wright	Suicide Prevention	Has any work been done to establish a national suicide prevention and awareness campaign that provides information to all Australians about the risks and misconceptions of suicide, and advice on how to seek and provide help for those who may be dealing with these issues? a) (If yes) Could you please explain?	Written QoN
186	11	Wright	Suicide Prevention	a) Is it true that the Australian Bureau of Statistics and other public agencies which collect health data records and track suicide occurrences and attempted suicides do not record or track such information in relation to people under 15 years of age? b) Why is this the case, and has consideration been given to changing this circumstance so that such information can be recorded and tracked in relation to those under 15 years of age?	Written QoN

187	11	Wright	10 Year Roadmap	When will the 10 Year Roadmap for Mental Health Reform be officially released?	Written QoN
188	11	Wright	National Mental Health Consumer Peak Body	a) In last year's Budget the Government indicated its intention to establish a National Mental Health Consumer Peak Body. Can you please explain the progress of this? b) What is the timetable for its establishment? c) Has the Consumer Reference Group been finalised yet? d) Has an auspice organisation for this Peak Body been finalised yet?	Written QoN
189	11	Wright	Anti-Stigma programs	The Productivity Commission's 2007 report Effects of Health and Education on Labour Force Participation highlighted the need for mental health anti-stigma campaigns to help address the very low employment participation rates of people experiencing mental illness in Australia. Can you please explain what funding and programs have been established in the past 5 years to address this issue?	Written QoN
190	11	Wright	Anti-Stigma programs	A 2011 report by the Mental Health Council of Australia highlighted the levels of stigma experienced by mental health consumers from mental health professionals. What measures are being undertaken by the Department to develop and deliver evidence-based mental health programs that address these levels of stigma so that consumers and carers can be treated with respect and dignity within our mental health system?	Written QoN
191	11	Wright	Mental Health and Complex Trauma	Two thirds of patients presenting to mental health services have experienced childhood sexual or physical abuse. Research shows that with the right programs adults who have experienced complex trauma from childhood can recover. Has there been any specific allocation of funds to complex trauma services?	Written QoN
192	11	Wright	Mental Health and Complex Trauma	Rates of suicide of survivors of child sexual abuse are up to 18 times higher than suicide rates for those who haven't been abused. What is being done in terms of suicide prevention for this group of Australians?	Written QoN
193	11	Wright	Mental Health and Complex Trauma	What provision has been made to train GP's in identifying and responding to trauma patients who present with different physical and mental health presentations?	Written QoN
194	11	Wright	Mental Health and Complex Trauma	How are mental health services and substance abuse services working together to adequately address complex trauma in patients, in order to help patients understand what happened to them and so as to collaborate with them towards their recovery?	Written QoN
195	11	Wright	Mental Health and Complex Trauma	Will Teleweb services be supported to deliver training to GPs and health professionals to respond to and provide adequate support for clients experiencing, or who have experienced, complex trauma?	Written QoN
196	11	Wright	Lack of access to mental health services in rural areas	The prevalence of mental health conditions in rural and remote Australia has been estimated as equivalent to levels in major cities. However, rural Australians face greater challenges as a result of difficulty accessing the support needed and the greater visibility and stigma attached to mental health in a smaller community. In particular, the problem is accentuated for people living in rural areas that are likely to have fewer health professionals, a much smaller choice of health service providers and scarce community support services. a) In last year's budget, \$2.2 billion dollars was allocated to various mental health reforms, some of which have been announced over the past year. I would like to know the total amount that has been allocated to rural mental health services under this reform package? b) Can you also provide details of the total amount to date that has been expended on rural mental health services under this reform package? c) Can you provide details of the total annual amounts of expenditure in relation to specific rural mental health initiatives over the past 5 years? d) I am particularly keen to hear details about any new rural mental health initiatives contained in the 2012-13 Budget. Can you list all the new rural mental health measures contained in this year's	Written QoN

197	11	Wright	Lack of access to mental health services in rural areas	Was any amount allocated under this year's Budget to the Mental Health Services in Rural and Remote Areas program? a) If so, how much was allocated to that program? b) If not, why not and what alternative programs that specifically target rural and remote areas in need of mental health services are available in place of this program? c) Can you also please provide details of the total annual amounts allocated to this program over the past 5 years?	Written QoN
198	11	Wright	Lack of access to mental health services in rural areas	In 2010, an evaluation by PricewaterhouseCoopers of the Mental Health Services in Rural and Remote Areas program indicated that there are some gaps in this service. For example, men (such as farmers) were not accessing services, issues with cultural acceptance of the program in the Indigenous and CALD (culturally and linguistically diverse) communities and there was an increasing demand for the service. Has the Department responded to this evaluation? a) If so, what was the response and has the program been improved to address the issues raised in the evaluation report? (i.e. identify the practical changes to the program and provide examples of improvements that have been made to addresses the concerns in the report)	Written QoN
199	11	Wright	Lack of access to mental health services in rural areas	a) In the Treasurer's Budget overview, the Government says it is "investing \$61 billion in 2012 13 in Australia's health care system, an estimated 37 per cent increase on 2007 08 levels" and "an additional \$19.8 billion in reforms to public hospital funding over the period to 2019-20." Is this correct - does this year's Budget invest a total amount of \$61 billion into health services? b) Of this \$61 billion, can you tell me what percentage is directed towards mental health services generally and rural mental health services specifically? The use of communication technology is one way to overcome the barrier of distance in rural and	Written QoN
200	10	Wright	Telepsychiatry	remote Australia. Videoconferencing can be used to communicate with other health professionals (e.g. specialists in a larger centre, general practitioners in remote towns) and even to hold patient consultations at a distance. While these telehealth services are no substitute for face-to-face medical and counselling support, they are an important tool in the rural health setting and enable greater access to essential mental health services for many people living in rural or remote Australia. Under this year's Budget the Government has stated that it will provide \$233.7 million over three years to implement the National e-Health Program, which is a continuation of funding. a) Will this program fund telehealth services in the mental health sector, such as telepsychiatry? b) If yes: What is the total amount allocated under this year's Budget to telepsychiatry services? c) What is the total amount allocated under this year's Budget to other telehealth services provided in the mental health sector? d) Is it possible to provide a further breakdown of the total amount allocated to telepsychiatry and other telehealth services that are utilised by the mental health practitioners (i.e. psychologists,	Written QoN
201	7	Siewert	Hearing Services	How many (grants) have been given out so far (under the program)? Is the list on the website?	CA 110 - 31/05/2012
202	7	Fierravanti-Wells	Hearing Services	What has been the result of that work? (studies related to hearing loss in young people)	CA 111 - 31/05/2012
203	7	Siewert	Hering Services	How many (hearing aid recipients) try them for awhile and put them in the drawer?	CA 111 - 31/05/2012
204	7	Fierravanti-Wells	Hearing Services	Have you got some statistics relating to usage of hearing aids amongst those (non-English speaking background) communities? Has a figure of \$1 Billion been put to the department; and is it true that the main banks and	CA 112 - 31/05/2012
205	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Aged Care Reform - ACFA	commercial aged-care providers estimate that investments in aged-care infrastructure of \$1 Billion have been put on hold as a result of this uncertainty?	CA 60 - 30/05/2012
206	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Aged Care Reform - ACFA	Has the Minister or the department received letters from providers about these changes and the impact they will have, particularly in relation to their reversal and decisions on the reversal by so many providers to build a new home? Carolyn Smith took the details of the correspondence on notice.	CA 60 - 30/05/2012

207	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Places allocated but not yet operational	How long they have been non-operational and when they were allocated? Give me a bit of a picture and the history of those non-operational licences and where they are.	CA 63 - 30/05/2012
208	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Aged Care Reform - Changes to the ACFI	In relation to the proposed ACFI changes and the current average subsidy that is paid for the care of older Australians in hospital, hospice and residential aged-care: do you have some statistics in relation to that, Ms Smith, which you could perhaps take on notice? Refer to QoN E12-309	CA 66 - 30/05/2012
209	4	Fierravanti-Wells	ACFI claims	Where was the overclaiming, if I can put it that way, and was it confined to a small number of providers? How extensive was it? How many of those providers are we talking about?	CA 69 - 30/05/2012
210	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Bonds	How many bonds are there of \$2.6 million and the department's understanding of the value of those bonds? How many are over \$2 million? How many are between \$1.5 and \$2 million?	CA 73 - 30/05/2012
211	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Aged Care Reform - lump sum and periodic payments	Do you have some statistics in relation to the current numbers and how many people opt to do one or the other?	CA 73 - 30/05/2012
212	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Means Testing	In broad terms, how many people will be affected and have to pay more?	CA 77 - 30/05/2012
213	4	Smith	'Telehealth Initiative'	Can you help me find what total quantum of funds has been allocated to the initiative and then over each financial year (in a Budget sense)? Do you have any information about the indicative indication of what the expected take-up rate might have been for each state and territory? What is the total take-up to date in each of the states and territories?	CA 82 - 30/05/2012
214	4	Smith	'Telehealth Initiative'	I would be interested in understanding within each state and territory what the regional and metropolitan difference, or take-up, was. If the take-up has been slower than expected, I would be keen to understand what factors might be contributing to that, but also what remedies might be in place. I understand it is only the first 12 months, but if the take-up rate has been less than expected, what remedies are in place and what other factors might have contributed to that?	CA 82 - 30/05/2012
215	4	Fierravanti-Wells	CVS	In relation to the Community Visitors Scheme. At page 56 of the technical document I note that the scope of it will be expanded. How will that occur? It is clear that it is going to be expanded in terms of its application. Will that include expanding the organisations that participate in the scheme? I am obviously mostly interested in special needs groups and CALD communities, and broader engagement of organisations in that area.	CA 83 - 30/05/2012
216	1	McKenzie	Amendments to the Food Standards Code	In relation to the last Code maintenance Proposal: a) How were industry submissions received? b) How were the comments treated? c) What proportion of industry comments were eventually adopted?	CA 67 - 31/05/2012
217	1	Siewert	Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs)	In relation to maximum residue limits (MRLs): a) How many applications have there been in the last 18 months to increase MRLs for either domestically produced food or imported food? b) What chemicals were involved and what was the increase? c) What was the outcome? d) In relation to applications relating to 2, 4-D: (i) How many have been received by FSANZ? (ii) Who made the applications? (ii) Has FSANZ received any other correspondence relating to 2, 4-D?	CA 68 - 31/05/2012
218	1	Siewert	GM commodities	How many applications has FSANZ received for GM commodities involving resistance to 2, 4-D and who were they from?	CA 70 - 31/05/2012
219	3	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Benefits - Nurse Practitioners	How many midwives and nurse practitioners were originally budgeted to have been providing services by 2011-12? *midwife portion answered, nurse practitioner portion taken on notice.	CA 110 - 30/05/2012
220	3	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Benefits - Reviews	Could you take on notice what level of consultation there was with patient and consumer groups? Perhaps you might give me some examples from some of the reviews that have occurred and what proportion of existing items on the MBS have been reviewed or are intended to be reviewed?	CA 111 - 30/05/2012

221	3	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Benefits - Decisions of MSAC	I was going to ask about the implementation phase between ministerial approval and the MBS listing the specific tasks, what departments or agents are responsible and the average processing time with each department or agency. Perhaps you might just take that one on notice, Mr Bartlett?	CA 112 - 30/05/2012
222	3	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Benefits - Decisions of MSAC	Do you have an average time for recommendations typically sitting in the minister's office awaiting consideration? Is there a time period or an average time?	CA 112 - 30/05/2012
223	3	Brown	Medicare Benefits - MRI	(In reference to Medicare eligible MRI machines with breast coils) Of those 90, which ones have been added from 12 March that would not normally be accredited under the medicare item?	CA 114 - 30/05/2012
224	3	Brown	Medicare Benefits - MRI	(In reference to Medicare eligible MRI machines with breast coils) Can you give me information as to where those 90 machines are located?	CA 115 - 30/05/2012
225	3	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Benefits - Pathology	In relation to pathology and pathology services, medicare statistics indicate that \$1.85 billion has been spent on pathology to April of this financial year. Is that correct?	CA 115 - 30/05/2012
226	3	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Benefits - Episode Cones	Is there any information available on how often GPs order tests in excess of the episode cone and how many additional tests are ordered on average?	CA 116 - 30/05/2012
227	0	Di Natale	Access and Equity	a) How does your Department ensure that the Government's Access and Equity Strategy is implemented in its entirety and in relation to all Departmental activities? b) How does your Department acknowledge the multicultural character of the Australian society, in terms of the services and programs you provide? c) How do you measure your success against Access and Equity goals? What evidence do you that the Department is actively implementing the Government's Access & Equity policy?	Written QoN
228	0	Di Natale	Access and Equity	What changes will you implement over the next financial year to ensure your programs and services are more accessible to CALD communities?	Written QoN
229	0	Di Natale	Access and Equity	What is your Department doing to ensure it has a culturally competent workforce?	Written QoN
230	0	Di Natale	Access and Equity	How will the Department ensure that Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Australians don't miss out in the recently released \$3.7 billion Aged Care Package?	Written QoN
231	0	Di Natale	Access and Equity	How will the Department ensure the Gateway service is accessible to Senior Australians from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds?	Written QoN
232	0	Di Natale	Access and Equity	Does your Department provide guidelines to potential clients in a language other than English? If yes, how many and which languages? Why not more given the rich linguistic background of your clients. If no, why not?	Written QoN
233	0	Di Natale	Access and Equity	How is the Department ensuring that Government funded mainstream health services are adequately addressing the needs of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Australians?	Written QoN
234	0	Di Natale	National Health Priority Areas	Over the forward estimates, how much funding has been allocated to programs that specifically target each of the national health priority areas?	Written QoN
235	0	Di Natale	National Health Priority Areas	What is the mortality rate, MBS and PBS expenditure for each of the national health priority areas?	Written QoN
236	0	Di Natale	National Health Priority Areas	On what basis is funding allocated to each of the national health priority areas? What efforts are made by the Department to assess the level of need across each of the national health priority areas?	Written QoN
237	0	Di Natale	National Health Priority Areas	What criteria does the Department apply to assess proposals for health interventions - for example, the cost per disability adjusted life year?	Written QoN
238	0	Di Natale	National Health Priority Areas	What criteria does the Department apply to assess proposals for screening programs? For example, how would the Department assess a proposal to introduce a national vascular check in Australia, similar to the UK¿s National Health Service Check?	Written QoN

239	0	Di Natale	National Health Priority Areas	Does the Department have a committee or similar expert body that can provide independent advice on the effectiveness of screening and prevention programs, similar to the UK¿s National Screening Committee? If not, why not?	Written QoN
240	1	Di Natale	Healthy Communities Initiative	a) Has the department sought to extend the Healthy Communities Initiative? If so, for how long, and has any additional funding been allocated to extend the program? b) When will a decision be made about the future of the Healthy Communities Initiative? c) How is the Department assessing the effectiveness of the Healthy Communities Initiative, given its strong focus on local government areas with lower SES populations? Are there any early indications of the program's success?	Written QoN
241	1	Di Natale	Rheumatic Heart Disease Strategy	a) What commitments has the government made to extend the rheumatic heart disease strategy? b) What efforts and funding allocations have been made to extend the rheumatic heart disease strategy beyond the four states/territories currently in the program to include South Australia and New South Wales?	Written QoN
242	1	Di Natale	Tobacco Control Strategy	a) When will the next national tobacco control strategy be released? b) What efforts is the Department making to ensure tax payers money is not invested in tobacco companies via the Future Fund?	Written QoN
243	9	Di Natale	Overseas Trained Doctors	a) Annually, how many overseas-trained doctors recruited to work in Australia are coming from developing countries? b) Has the Department performed or is the Department aware of any modelling or estimates of the annual savings in costs to the Australian healthcare system from recruiting overseas trained doctors and nurses?	Written QoN
244	10	Sinodinos	eHealth Wave Sites	What sort of coverage do you have across the wave sites? Answer - Fleming: There are three waves sites. They cover East Melbourne, the Hunter and the Brisbane area. From memory, the total population catchment of that group is about 1.6 million people, but I will have to check that. That is the total population catchment and clearly we have targets with those groups for the number of practitioners and the number of consumers that will be added.	CA 88 - 30/05/2012
245	10	Sinodinos	eHealth Wave Sites	Does that include spending on the pilot sites? Answer - Ms Huxtable: Around \$75 million of the \$466.7 million was for the wave site development. Since then we have put more money into some of the transitions, so that they can transition to the national infrastructure: I do not have that number in my head. There was also money in that for the actual build of the national infrastructure. Accenture has been working on the national infrastructure for benefits and evaluation and for the change and adoption. I think the \$110 million and the \$466.7 million overlap a bit, so we will have to take on notice exactly how that is broken down. As Chris said, we engaged NeHTA as our managing agent in respect of a number of these elements and then there are elements where we have a tripartite contract between NeHTA, our department and the national infrastructure partner. We have some joint responsibilities in that regard.	CA 90 - 30/05/2012
246	10	Sinodinos	eHealth Wave Sites	What do the pilot sites cost on average? Answer - Ms Huxtable: They vary. I do not think it makes sense to talk on an average. What is the range? Answer - Ms Huxtable: I do not have that in my head. The wave 1 sites came online much earlier and were very focussed around primary care regions based around Medicare locals that already had a high level of readiness and capability to go to the next stage. The first sites were hand-picked. For the wave 2 sites there was an open process, so we got a very large number of submissions from a range of stakeholders and that resulted in those nine sites. We can take on notice exactly what the funding has been for the sites, but it ranges. You can get a sense from the fact there were 12 sites and the initial allocation was \$75 million, so that gives an average.	CA 90 - 30/05/2012

247	10	Di Natale	E-Health	a) How much is budgeted over forward estimates to support nurses and allied health professionals in becoming involved in the roll-out of personally controlled electronic health records? b) Have allocations been made to ensure that standards and practice guidelines are available for the involvement of allied health and nursing professionals and their organisations in various facets of eHealth?	Written QoN
248	10	Di Natale	E-Health	Recently the Minister claimed that electronic health programs will save more than \$11 billion over the next 15 years. What was the methodology used to arrive at this figure? Please provide detailed breakdowns.	Written QoN
249	10	Di Natale	E-Health	a) How much has been spent to date on travel related expenses in rolling out the PCEHR? b)How much of this was overseas travel (including overseas consultants to travel to Australia)?	Written QoN
250	6	Di Natale	Rural Health	Please outline the range of health workforce programs for Doctors, Nurses and Allied Health Professionals targeting rural and remote Australia including (1) program name (2) annual budget (3) number of participants for each program.	Written QoN
251	3	Di Natale	MBS Listing of PET scans	The President of the Australian Leukemia and Lymphoma Trials Group (ALLG) wrote to Minister Roxon and MSAC in 2011 expressing concern that patient care would suffer because of several MSAC recommendations to remove PET indications in lymphoma from the MBS. Given these serious concerns about patient wellbeing expressed by a group representing virtually all of the key Australian clinical researchers in the field of malignant haematology, why did the Department's representative on MSAC's Executive dismiss PET scanning?	Written QoN
252	3	Di Natale	MBS Listing of PET scans	The President of the Australian Leukemia and Lymphoma Trials Group (ALLG) wrote to Minister Roxon and MSAC in 2011 expressing concern that patient care would suffer because of several MSAC recommendations to remove PET indications in lymphoma from the MBS. Was this complaint ever considered by the general MSAC membership? (If yes please provide details)	Written QoN
253	3	Di Natale	MBS Listing of PET scans	Does the Ombudsman have the power to assess MSAC's conduct? Please provide a legislative basis for your answer.	Written QoN
254	3	Di Natale	MBS listing of PET scans	a) How are MSAC members appointed and what professional and personal attributes are required for membership? b) Are the CV's of MSAC members available to the public? c) How are MSAC members remunerated?	Written QoN
255	3	Di Natale	MBS Listing of PET scans	Is there any external peer review of MSAC reports before they are sent to the Minister or published?	Written QoN
256	3	Di Natale	MBS listing of PET scans	The MSAC report on colorectal cancer published in 2008 found that PET could produce net cost savings to Australian healthcare system of between \$6 and 10 million. However the MSAC review of PET appears to have overestimated the cost of PET by over 40% (using a cost of \$1265 when the MBS payment at the time for PET was \$881, a difference of \$384). a) Can the Department explain this apparent discrepancy? b) Does the Department agree that this discrepancy would have materially underestimated the net savings to the healthcare system from using PET?	Written QoN
257	12	Di Natale	ASGC - RA system	Given the anomalies in the ASGC - RA system, what work is underway to develop and apply an improved classification system for remoteness?	Written QoN
258	12	Di Natale	Targeted Workforce Areas	a) Is there a proposal for a new Targeted Workforce Areas (TWA) scheme and, if so how is it proposed to operate? b) Would the new system be applied just to general practice incentives and return of service by bonded medical scholars, or would it also encompass the classification of Districts of Workforce Shortage? c) How soon can such a new scheme be expected to be applied to the scaling of general practice incentives?	Written QoN

259	12	Di Natale	Rural health workforce	In the 2010-11 Budget, funding was announced to increase the number of training places for medical specialists from 360 to 900 by 2014. What progress has been made towards this goal and what proportion of these training places are outside major cities?	Written QoN
260	12	Di Natale	Rural health workforce	What programs are available to increase the number of procedural medical skills in rural and remote areas?	Written QoN
261	6	Di Natale	Rural health workforce	What evidence is available about the reduction in availability of GP proceduralists to rural people (for maternity services, anaesthetics, minor surgery)? a) What evidence does the Department have about the relative demand, compared with the	Written QoN
262	6	Di Natale	Rural health workforce	availability of places, for scholarships relating to nursing and allied health? b) Given the greater number of (in particular) nursing students currently in training, what consideration is being given to how the distribution of nurses will be improved and how a greater proportion of them can be obtained for the health sector?	Written QoN
263	12	Di Natale	Rural health workforce	What is Health Workforce Australia's (HWAs) approach towards developing an allied health evidence database to inform strategies for workforce development and reform funding the collection of allied health workforce and service delivery data, especially in rural and remote areas across Australia?	Written QoN
264	12	Di Natale	Rural health workforce	Is health workforce Australia engaged in activity related to rural medical proceduralists?	Written QoN
265	12	Di Natale	Rural health workforce	The recent Federal Budget announced some realignment of certain Health Workforce Australia activities, with the consequent savings to be redirected towards the GP Rural Incentives Program. a) How much money is allocated in forward estimates for the GP RIP program? b) Will the Department conduct a review of the effectiveness of the program? c) How many doctors have been helped to relocate under the provisions of the GP RIP program and at what expense? d) Can the Department provide information about the numbers who have moved between various remoteness areas (for instance from major cities (RA1) to outer regional (RA3)? Or from inner regional (RA2) to remote (RA4)?) e) Is it possible for the Department to prepare a table of such movements so that the so-called scaling of incentives can be assessed?	Written QoN
266	12	Di Natale	Rural health workforce	What is the distribution of general physicians outside major cities?	Written QoN
267	3	Di Natale	Health Technology Assessments	The Report of the Review of Health Technology Assessment in Australia was released in February last year more than two years ago. While most of the recommendations have been accepted, three - 13, 14 and 15 remain `subject to further consideration by Governmentt Is the Department providing advice to Government on the implementation of these recommendations, what is the nature of that advice, and can you provide an indication of when the Government is likely to respond?	Written QoN
268	2	Di Natale	Review	A review of anticoagulation therapies in atrial fibrillation is currently underway - when is the report of this review likely to be released?	Written QoN
269	6	Di Natale	National Rural Health Strategic Framework	a) Which area of the Department has responsibility for implementation of the National Rural Health Strategic Framework (adopted by all jurisdictions recently)? b) Will there be a roadmap or action plan developed to be complementary to the Framework? c) What forward expenditures are directly associated with the agreed Framework?	Written QoN
270	6	Di Natale	Multi-purpose services	In the Budget, there are savings from the Commonwealth's not proceeding with the provision of subacute beds in Multi-Purpose Services. a) What is the total extent of these savings? b) Is this money lost to rural and remote health services? c) What are the reasons for the decision not to proceed?	Written QoN

271	13	Di Natale	Multi-purpose services	a) What is the status of Multi-Purpose Service funding in the context of the new funding formula being developed for public hospitals? How is the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) dealing with the MPS situation in which the acute care and aged care dollars are in effect pooled? b) Are there any guarantees about the future funding for existing MPSs? c) In the context of the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority's work, how many hospitals are being block funded? d) What determines whether a small to middle sized hospital is to receive activity-based funding (ABF) or block funding? e) How is the block funding formula being developed? How is the IHPA being advised on block funding and rural hospitals?	Written QoN
272	3	Di Natale	Telehealth	a)How much money has the Department spent to date in telehealth training to support the adoption of telehealth? b)Can the Department provide a breakdown of telehealth consultations provided to date under the new item number(s) by geographical location of the patient, the provider and the specialty involved?	Written QoN
273	1	Di Natale	Diabetes Screening	a)Are there any plans for further coordinated care trials for diabetes patients? b) Has there been a review of the program and, if so, is it publicly available?	Written QoN
274	1	Di Natale	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	a)How much financial support does the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare receive from Health Workforce Australia? b)What percentage of the total is this amount?c)What evidence can you offer that the AIHW has sufficient capacity (including specialised rural and remote expertise) to accommodate the increase in reporting by remoteness?	Written QoN
275	0	Di Natale	Flexible Funds Programs	a)Have the successful applications in the first rounds of the Department's new flexible funds programs been announced? b)How many applications were there in total and what was the total value of them compared with the amount of money available in each of the flexible funds? c)What was the process for review and decision on the applications (was it conducted entirely within the Department or was there an advisory committee)?	Written QoN
276	14	Di Natale	Antimicrobial resistance	Does the Department support the recommendations of the 1998 Joint Expert Technical Advisory Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (JETACAR) report? If not why not, when was the decision made not to support the report and what evidence and strategy now underpins the Department's response to antimicrobial resistance?	Written QoN
277	14	Di Natale	Antimicrobial resistance	In response to the 1998 Joint Expert Technical Advisory Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (JETACAR) report a number of committees were set up in order to ensure implementation of JETACAR recommendations including the Commonwealth Interdepartmental JETACAR Implementation Group (CIJIG), the expert advisory group EAGAR, the Australian Health Minister's Conference AHMC JETACAR Taskforce, Primary Industries Standing Committee (PISC) JETACAR Taskforce and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestries (SCARM) JETACAR Taskforce. a)Are any of these bodies still active and are there any other committees in addition to the abovementioned which are currently managing the response to JETACAR or the issue of AMR in Australia? b)If not, why not? If any of these bodies have been wound up, how was the work given to these committees managed after they were disbanded?	Written QoN
278	14	Di Natale	Antimicrobial resistance	Has DOHA been the lead agency in managing the implementation of the recommendations of the 1998 Joint Expert Technical Advisory Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (JETACAR)? If not which agency carries that responsibility?	Written QoN
279	14	Di Natale	Antimicrobial resistance	Has the Department (or any other body to the Department's knowledge) ever produced a progress report detailing the implementation of the recommendations of the 1998 Joint Expert Technical Advisory Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (JETACAR)? If not why not? If yes please provide a copy.	Written QoN

280	14	Di Natale	Antimicrobial resistance	The Executive Summary of the 1998 Joint Expert Technical Advisory Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (JETACAR) report states that while 'off-label' use is a desirable practice to service the animal health of minor animal species, there is a need for appropriate restrictions on antibiotic use to be enforceable in all States and Territories. Legislation relating to the use of veterinary chemical products varies considerably between states and territories allowing differences in application of off label prescribing by veterinarians, which can sometimes be inappropriate. What steps has the Department taken to address this concern? If no steps have been taken, why not?	Written QoN
281	14	Di Natale	Antimicrobial resistance	In September 2003 the Australian Government released a Strategy for Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance in Australia. Have there been any progress reports produced on how this strategy has been implemented?	Written QoN
282	1	Di Natale	Persistent Organic Pollutants	a) How far advanced is the domestic treaty process including the Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) and the National Interest Analysis? b) When will this process be completed? c) When will the decision be announced regarding ratification? d) What stakeholder consultation has occurred so far in relation to this process?	Written QoN
283	14	Di Natale	Antimicrobial resistance	a)What are the terms of reference of the recently announced anticmicrobial resistance advisory Committee? b)What is its name and membership? c)Will its Terms of Reference be the same as the	Written QoN
284	14	Di Natale	Antimicrobial resistance	In the 2011 Health Minister's Conference Communique 'Ministers noted the release of Antimicrobial Stewardship in Australian Hospitals 2011, by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, an important part of national action to combat antimicrobial resistance in Australia.' Is there any coordinated and ongoing work by Australia's Health Ministers to address the implementation of the recommendations of the 2000 JETACAR report, or the 2003 Strategy for Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance in Australia or any other relevant strategies?	Written QoN
285	14	Di Natale	Antimicrobial resistance	The Australian Health Minister's Conference (AHMC) JETACAR Taskforce, which was appointed by (AHMC)in 2000 to assist formal consultation with the States and Territories and to monitor implementation was disbanded in 2002 because according to the Department of Health and Aging website, it had completed its work. Please describe in detail the work that it had completed, including outcomes and actions	Written QoN
286	1	Di Natale	Organ Donation Rates	According to the OTA Performance Report 2011, there were 730 Potential Deceased Organ Donors in Australia in 2011 (or 32.27 potential donors per million population (pmp)). Dr Jonathon Gillis stated recently at Senate estimate hearings that there 'are basically only two performance indicators. One is that 100 per cent of potential donors are approached.' This statement presupposes that all potential donors are already being identified in Australia. At the rate referred to in the OTA Performance Report 2011, only 0.49% of all Australians who die each year and 0.94% of all hospital deaths are potential organ donors. What is being done to ensure all potential donors are identified in Australia, in line with the rates being achieved overseas?	Written QoN
287	1	Di Natale	Fetal Alcohol Syndrome	Does the Department intend to release the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Monograph which has now been completed since 2009? What has been the reason for the delay in releasing the Monograph?	Written QoN

288	1	Di Natale	Fetal Alcohol Syndrome	According the Department of Health and Ageing¿s Portfolio Budget Statement for 2012-13, it is intending to `promote messages about the harms of drinking alcohol while pregnant, with a view to linking these messages to those currently being used by the alcohol industry'. What are the Department's plans for progressing this?	Written QoN
289	2	Di Natale	Trans-Pacific Partnership	Has the Department performed any modelling or estimates of the costs to the pharmaceutical benefits scheme of US proposals in the current round of the Trans- Pacific Partnership negotiations?	Written QoN
290	0	Di Natale	Trans-Pacific Partnership	Have there been (or will there be) any estimates of the burden of disease in developing countries if the Trans- Pacific Partnership Agreement tightens intellectual property rules applying to medicines, or introduces an investor-state settlement provision that enables tobacco companies to prevent the implementation of effective tobacco control policies?	Written QoN
291	0	Di Natale	Trans-Pacific Partnership	Many chapters and provisions of the Trans- Pacific Partnership Agreement may make it more difficult for governments to introduce effective policy interventions to address rising rates of non-communicable diseases - such as tobacco control policies, nutrition and alcohol labelling and restrictions on advertising of unhealthy goods. Has the Department examined the full implications of all chapters of the TPPA for public health policy in Australia?	Written QoN
292	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Independent Hospital Pricing Authority	In relation to the Contract Notice (479225) for the Sydney Tenancy Office Fitout for \$1.8 million: a)How many people work in this office? b)What did the work entail? Has the work been completed? c) What is the value of the lease on this premises? d)What is the floor space?	Written QoN
293	0	Di Natale	Trans-pacific Partnership	Have the states and territories been given the opportunity to thoroughly examine the proposed text for the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement and perform their own assessments of its potential effects on health services, purchasing of medicines and other areas of state/territory health care and public health policy?	Written QoN
294	1	Fierravanti-Wells	TGA	What were the results of the TGA's most recent audit of CSL's production facilities?	Written QoN
295	1	Fierravanti-Wells	TGA	Is the TGA satisfied that CSL has rectified the manufacturing deficiencies identified by the US Food and Drug Administration?	Written QoN
296	1	Fierravanti-Wells	TGA	Were the results of the most recent TGA audit taken into account when the federal government awarded its latest \$117m contract to supply the nation's flu vaccine until 2016?	Written QoN
297	1	Fierravanti-Wells	TGA	What are the latest findings of the ongoing TGA investigation into the cause of the Fluvax febrile convulsions in children in 2010?	Written QoN
298	0	Fierravanti-Wells	Expenditure	What is the projected departmental and administered expenditure for each initiative, measure or activity within each program of the portfolio over the forward estimates including the objective of each initiative, measure or activity within each program.	Written QoN
299	3	Fierravanti-Wells	MSAC recommendations	According to evidence by Dr Bartlett, new MBS funding is considered as part of budget decisions along with other things. Does this mean that it is the norm that MSAC positive recommendations made in the 12 months leading up to the annual Federal Budget would be considered in the context of funding in that budget? Is MBS funding only considered as part of the Expenditure Review Committee¿s deliberations for the health portfolio? If not, does this mean that positive MSAC recommendations made months prior to the annual Federal Budget process miss out and have to wait for the next budget cycle to be funded?	Written QoN
300	3	Fierravanti-Wells	Current MSAC Process	Why can it take over six months to administratively process an application that has Ministerial approval? What (specifically) occurs during the Implementation Phase (between Ministerial Approval and MBS listing)? What are the specific tasks required during the Implementation Phase by department and agency? What is the average processing time with each department and agency?	Written QoN

301 302 303	3 3 3	Fierravanti-Wells Fierravanti-Wells Fierravanti-Wells	MSAC recommendations MSAC Report MSAC performance	How many positive MSAC recommendations are in the Minister's office and waiting for Ministerial approval? How long can positive MSAC recommendations sit in the Minister's Office awaiting consideration? Does the Minister's assessment of the public release of the MSAC report occur before or after the service is costed and considered for a public funding decision? In relation to MSCA's submission and evaluation process, have performance metrics been developed for MSAC in response to the HTA Review? If yes, do any of the performance indicators include target timelines for phases of the submission and evaluation process? Are these publically available and if not why not? What specific steps are currently being taken to improve the processes within MSAC? The PBAC evaluation cycle is 17 weeks. Is there any expectation that MSAC will achieve similar process efficiency?	Written QoN Written QoN Written QoN
304 305	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Aged Care Funding Authority Aged Care Funding Instrument	a) "If many elements of the package in regards to financing only come into force in July 2014, why is there nearly \$10m of the full \$26.4m expenditure in setting up ACFA in the first 2 years (\$.4.1 (2012), \$5.7 (2013)? b) Please can you provide a budget breakdown of planned ACFA expenditure in the first 2 years from July 2012? Is it true that the ACFI changes released by the Department on the 29 May are different to the	Written QoN Written QoN
306	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Aged Care Funding Instrument	business rules released by the ACFI Monitoring Group on the 30 March 2012? If on the 1 July 2012, a resident passes away who is currently assessed with a High ADL and a new resident is admitted on the 2 July 2012 with an identical assessment, will the new resident be paid the same, more or less than the former? how much less will the new resident receive in care per day?	Written QoN
307	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Aged Care Funding Instrument	How many allocated but not operational licences are there currently? How much will it cost the Government at less than 80% take up of residential aged care licences?	Written QoN
308	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Aged Care Funding Instrument	Has the Department been provided with substantial modelling of the care subsidy impact of these new business rules upon existing resident profiles to assess how many residents would be impacted?	Written QoN
309	5	Fierravanti-Wells Fierravanti-Wells	Aged Care Funding Instrument General Practice Education and Training Ltd	What is the current average subsidy it pays for the care of older Australian in each of the following: Hospital, Hospice and Residential Aged Care a) "How does that remuneration structure work and how does it differ from GPs providing supervisions for medical students? b) What is the process of accreditation for supervision of registrars? c) How much funding is currently provided per registrar for training per year and across the course of their training? What number of additional supervisors have been recruited to the program in the last 12 months? d) Has GPET considered the issue of consulting space available for trainees, in relation to the ability to recruit supervisors? e) Looking into the future, what projections have been made about the demand for GP training places over the next 5 or 10 years? f) What projections have been made about the availability of supervisors for GP training places over the next 5 or 10 years? g) Are there any concerns about the potential for a reduction in the quality of training resulting from having to bring so many new supervisors into the system to accommodate so many trainees? h) What framework do you have for measuring the quality of training in General Practice? i) Have you developed a set of clinical indicators to measure the quality of Clinical training? j) What role does the National Performance Authority have, or could have, in relation to measuring the quality of	Written QoN Written QoN

311	5	Fierravanti-Wells	GP Super Clinic	a) Can the Department confirm the contents of the Medical Observer Article on the 26th April 2012 that states the Townsville GP Super Clinic is not able to provide any allied healthcare services until after a period of council scrutiny? b) What services will the Townsville GP Super Clinic be providing when it initially opens? c) For what period of time will the Townsville GP Super Clinic be limited to only providing GP and Pharmacy services at the clinic? d) Is this a breach of the Townsville GP Super Clinic funding agreement by not providing allied healthcare at the clinic? e) Is there any guarantee that the Council will EVER allow additional allied health services to be provided at the Townsville GP Super Clinic?	Written QoN
312	5	Fierravanti-Wells	GP Super Clinic	a) Can the Department give us an update on the Darwin GP Super Clinic? b) ABC News reported that an organisation has put a detailed submission to the Minister, How many other applications have been received since the Minister announced that no provider had applied? c) Has the Department considered this application yet? d) When will a preferred applicant be announced?	Written QoN
313	5	Fierravanti-Wells	GP Super Clinic	With regard to Question E12-110 from February Estimates, the Department claimed that it could not disclose the details of GP Super Clinics that had applied for, and been denied extra funding. a) Can the Department give the number of GP Super Clinics that have requested extra funding above their original commitment, without releasing the details of those organisations. (Just looking for '10 GP Super Clinics have requested extra funding' etc) b) Without releasing the details of those organisations, how many of those organisations who have requested additional funding have been denied?	Written QoN
314	5	Fierravanti-Wells	GP Super Clinic	a) What is the 2012-13 salary allocation in dollar terms for the GP Super Clinics Branch of the Department of Health & Ageing? b) How many staff does that relate to? c) What proportion is for the GP Super Clinics Program? d) What proportion is for the Primary Care Infrastructure Grants program?	Written QoN
315	5	Fierravanti-Wells	GP Super Clinic	a) What was the outcome of the Evaluation of the GP Super Clinics Program 2007-2009 run by Consan Pty Ltd at a cost of \$301,873?b) Can the Department release the evaluation report to the Committee? i. If not, why not?-Was this \$301,873 taken from the GP Super Clinics program funding?-If not, where did this money come from?-What aspects of the GP Super Clinics Program 2007-2009 did Consan Pty Ltd evaluate?-Did this evaluation include the location of the clinics? If not, why not? The Minister has again been quoted releasing the number of presentations at individual GP Super Clinic locations (Grafton GP Super Clinic), despite the Department claiming repeatedly at Estimates that these figures are commercial in confidence? c) Why is the Minister able to release these numbers individually, but the Department refuses? d) Can the Department request authorisation from each GP Super Clinic to release the number of presentations on a 2-monthly basis since each of the GP Super Clinics opened. If not, why not? Regarding the extra \$3.3 million for the Ballan GP Super Clinic announced during the Federal Budget this year: e) What is the purpose of the additional funding?- Who made the initial contact regarding the extra funding? f) Did Ballan contact the	Written QoN
316	5	Fierravanti-Wells	GP Super Clinic	a) Can the Department give us an update on the Northam GP Super Clinic? b) Has a site been chosen for the Northam GP Super Clinic? On 9 December 2011 the Minister stated that "Negotiations were progressing well" but in the ABC article from 22 March it mentions that funding may be withdrawn? c) Had the Department threatened to withdraw funding from the Northam GP Super Clinic? d) Can the department explain the comments in the Article? The article also claims that the federal funding value was \$3.2 million, however the initial announcement was only for \$3 million. e) What is the Federal Governments actual contribution to the Northam GP Super Clinic?	Written QoN

317	5	Fierravanti-Wells	GP Super Clinic	a) Can you give us an update on the Sorell GP Super Clinic? b) Has the Deed of Mutual Termination been completed? c) If not, when do you expect this to be completed? d) Has the Audited Financial Statements been accepted by the Department? e) Can the Department give an updated figure on the final cost of the Failed Sorell GP Super Clinic? f) How much money is required to be returned to the Government? g) If there was \$44 million in the GP Super Clinics program that could be removed, why was extra funding not provided to Sorell Integrated health Ltd to ensure the Sorell GP Super Clinic went ahead?	Written QoN
318	10	Fierravanti-Wells	Draft Australian Dietary Guidelines 2011	I understand that where there are two opposing views in an area, the NHMRC reverts to the evidence in the systematic literature review (SLR). What happens when a SLR has not been conducted as in the case of the proposed trans fat guideline, given that no review was undertaken?	Written QoN
319	10	Fierravanti-Wells	Draft Australian Dietary Guidelines 2011	Where submissions identified references that had not been reviewed by the Committee, what steps are taken to ensure those sources are adequately assessed? A recent report indicates that the NHMRC peer review process has been compromised by the	Written QoN
320	10	Fierravanti-Wells	Draft Australian Dietary Guidelines 2011	selection of an expert with a documented bias against the issue of contention, in this case concern about the health impact of wind farms. Professor Anderson confirmed that a peer review of the revised draft Australian dietary guidelines by national and international experts will be conducted. How will the reviewers be selected? Will this selection process include and assessment of any	Written QoN
321	10	Fierravanti-Wells	NHMRC Dietary Guidelines for Older Australians	perceived bias of the reviewers? The NHMRC Dietary Guidelines for Older Australians have been rescinded. Will these guidelines be reviewed? If no, why not? If yes, what is the timeframe for this project?	Written QoN
322	10	Fierravanti-Wells	Draft Australian Dietary Guidelines 2011	I understand that the NHMRC members have reviewed all submissions relating to the draft Australian dietary guidelines and that every last one was taken into account. Did the Committee record against each issue raised: a) if the issue was accepted and the change made in the text; and b) if the issue was not accepted, was the reason for the rejection recorded? Will the record of the Committee's decision in this regard be publicly released? If not, why not?	Written QoN
323	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Headspace	Please provide a table updating the list of headspace sites that are operational with the following information (Location, Date of Announcement, Date of Funding Agreedment, Funding Recipient, Completion of Contract, Status of Local Government Approval, Date of Construction commenced or proposed construction, Proposed Opening Date, Service Delivery). Could you please use the same format as the GP Superclinic Update Table.	Written QoN
324	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Headspace	In relation to the current sites operating as a hub and spoke model or with outreach services: Please provide details in relation to each. What was the process in relation to establishing the outreach services? Was this part of the original requirement when that site was established or did it evolve afterwards? Please provide details.	Written QoN
325	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Headspace	a) What is the proposed timetable for the rollout of the 90 headspace sites by 2015? b) What is the criteria for choosing the outstanding sites?	Written QoN
326	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Mental Health Nurses Incentive Program	a) Did the Department of Health and Ageing provide advice to the Government on the amount of funding required for the MHNIP if the program was not capped in 2012-13? b) If so, what is that amount of funding? And how many people would be expected to receive services through the program in 2012-13 if the program was not capped.	Written QoN
327	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Mental Health Nurses Incentive Program	How many organisations registered for the MHNIP claimed the rural and remote loading in 2011-12? What percentage of payments made to organisations in 2011-12 have attracted the rural and remote loading?	Written QoN

328	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Mental Health Nurses Incentive Program	How many nurses were delivering MHNIP services in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-1	Written QoN
329	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Mental Health Nurses Incentive Program	When the funding for the MHNIP was adjusted in 2008-09, what were the funding allocations made at that time?	Written QoN
330	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Mental Health Nurses Incentive Program	In the Department of Health and Ageing's May 2008 progress report on the COAG National Action Plan on Mental Health (2006 - 2011) it states ¿Under the 2008/09 Federal Budget, program funding was adjusted to reflect lower than anticipated demand. Should take up for demand increase above what is expected, funding levels will be reviewed - (see attached) What arrangement did the Department of Health Ageing put in place to measure the demand? When and how frequently has the Department reviewed the funding levels? Did the Department identify prior to the 2011-12 Budget that the demand had increased above what was expected? Did it review the funding levels at that time?	Written QoN
331	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Overseas Medically Trained Spouses	"The following questions are in relation to foreign citizen who migrated to Australia under the skilled occupation list and their overseas medically trained spouse, are placed in a more favourable position than an Australian citizen and their overseas medically trained spouseHow many people apply for a spousal exemption under clause 5.6 of the Guidelines to section 19AB of the Health Insurance Act 1973?-How many spousal exemptions are granted annually? How many have been granted per year in the last five years? How many people apply for any exemption under section 19AB of the Act? - How many exemptions under s19AB are granted annually? How many have been granted per year in the last five years?-What is the Department's interpretation of the spousal provision clause 5.6 of the Guidelines to section 19AB of the Health Insurance Act 1973?-Did the Department receive legal advice before making its original decision in regards to Dr Kavita Sarang? If not, why not? -Did the Minister receive legal advice before making a decision in regards to Dr Kavita Sarang? If not, why not? -If not, would the Department now seek legal advice? -Is the Department concerned that	Written QoN
332	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Dental	Australian citizens are being discriminated against on the basis of their citizenship in the Can the Department provide a yearly breakdown of the anticipated expenditure within this budget measure identified as incereasing the capacity of the dental workforce by program a) Further to evidence given at the Estimates hearing, please advise what services will be included or	Written QoN
333	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Dental	excluded under this funding (eg. Restorative, general, emergency)? b) How many services (as opposed to patients) will be provided? c) How many people are currently on public dental waiting lists? d) Can you provide a breakdown of how many additional patients you expect will be treated each year and according to each jurisdiction. e) Can you provide a breakdown of funding to be provided by jurisdiction? f) How many extra dental practitioners will be required in the public system to meet this target?	Written QoN
334	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Dental	Dental Health - national oral health promotion activities [BP2, p174]. What are the key dental health organisations that the Department will be consulting with to develop a national oral health promotion plan in 2012-13? Which agency will be responsible for implementing the dental health - national oral health promotion activities measures? Does the Department intend to leverage off existing known parties ¿ initiatives on oral health promotion such as the Australian Dental Association?	Written QoN
335	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Dental	Dental Health - alleviating pressure on public dental waiting lists [BP2, p172] How much do you expect to reduce the waiting list by in each year of the measure? Please provide a breakdown by state/territory.	Written QoN

336	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Local Lead Clinicans Group	According to the National Health Reform Progress and Delivery document released in September 2011, arrangements for Local Lead Clinician Groups commenced in July last year. What arrangements had been put in place? The Progress and Delivery document also states that the first Local Groups would commenced in January to March this year. How many had commenced? How much has been spent on establishing Local Lead Clinicians Groups to date? Why are they now not being established, what has changed? When was the decision made not to proceed with them? How will the role of the National Collaborative Clinicians Network differ from the National Lead Clinicians Group? When will the National Collaborative Clinicians Network be established? What are the specific details on how the Network will operate: How will appointments be made to the Network, will the Federal Minister be responsible for it, will there be a support staff, how much will people be paid?	Written QoN
337	13	Fierravanti-Wells	South Australian cost shifting to Medicare	a) Have you considered or investigated any allegations, as reported publicly, of the South Australian Health Department requiring doctors in public hospitals to bill under Medicare and to sign over their rights to the money? b) If so, what was the outcome? c) If not, why not? d) With respect to the SA Health directive, that if patients elect, there may be "MBS-billed pathology, diagnostic imaging and procedural services", would this possibly lead to a variation in the Commonwealth's contribution under Clause B63 of the Agreement? e) Under clause B63 is there a formula for varying the Commonwealth's contribution? f) What consultation or negotiation would occur with respect to a variation to the Commonwealth's contribution? g) The SA Health Minister has stated that "to the extent we can get Medicare to pay for services, we will, legally that is, we will do that". Is it possible to be compliant with the Health Insurance Act for the purposes of Medicare, but still be in breach of the Agreement? That is, is it possible that the cost-shifting practices being alleged in South Australia are not prohibited under the Act and therefore not 'illegal' in the view of the Minister, but still result in action under the Agreement? h) Has any consideration been given to amending the Health Insurance	Written QoN
338	13	Fierravanti-Wells	National health and Hospital Network	National Health and Hospitals Network - Aged Care - expand access to multi-purpose services - cessation [BP2, p195]: a) Can the Department advise how many sub-acute beds will not be funded now as a result of this funding cut? b) Can the Department provide a breakdown of the number of sub-acute beds that won't be funded by State/Territory? c) Can the Department provide a breakdown of the number of sub-acute beds that won't be funded by ASGC-RA category? d)When did the Federal Government first indicate to State and Territory Governments that it would cut funding for this measure if negotiations became `protracted¿ and a partnership agreement could not be reached? e)Did the Government raise this possibility either through COAG, the Standing Council on Health, the Australian Health Minister's Advisory Council (AHMAC) or the Rural Health Standing Committee (RHSC)? f) Did the Government provide States and Territories with a deadline by which agreement must be reached or funding would be cut? If so, what was this deadline? g) Had any States and Territories indicated their intention to agree to a national partnership agreement prior to this budget	Written QoN
339	13	Di Natale	Organ donation rates in Australia	announcement? If so, which States and Territories? h) At what stage was the negotiation process? With reference to the Federal announcement on 2 July 2008 - `The Australian Government has proposed a major new national reform package to establish Australia as a world leader in organ donation for transplantation. ¿ Source: http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr08-nr-nr100.htm. The 4- year funding period for the national organ donation reform agenda was announced in 2008. As the expiration date approaches, please advise the funding amount and time-frame that has been allocated in forward estimates?	Written QoN

340	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Organ Donation rates in Australia	Based on the current available international data, Australia is ranked 24th in the world for deceased organ donation for transplantation. (Source: Council of Europe Transplant Newsletter, September 2011) Given that the federal funding package was announced and the Organ and Tissue Authority formed 'to establish Australia as a world leader in organ donation for transplantation', has the government audited the poor performance of the program? Has it identified the reasons for the poor performance, given the money that has been made available and spent to date, and the steps or persons and spend needed to fix it?	Written QoN
341	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Independent Hospital Pricing Authority	Has a central tendency (mean or median) of cost been decided on for pricing? Is this the cost of `best-practice' or is it just the mean of providing that service across all hospitals? On this model, about half of LHN's will get less funding than it costs them to provide the service? When would you expect a proper normative pricing model, that truly reflects 'efficient price' to be fully operational? From 1 July 2012, there won't be an efficient price operating - the Commonwealth's contribution to LHN's will just be based on the mean cost of historical data from a few years ago?	Written QoN
342	9	Fierravanti-Wells	Independent Hospital Pricing Authority	a)Are there any public hospital services that States will no longer be directly funded by the Commonwealth through efficient pricing, such as outpatients or post-surgical rehabilitation? b)If so, how will these services be provided? Who will pay for such services? The Commonwealth through MBS, or the individual patient? c)How will you measure and monitor the difference in what services are publicly available in each jurisdiction?	Written QoN
343	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Independent Hospital Pricing Authority	The 2012-13 Budget is almost \$27M ¿ to determine the 'efficient price' for hospital services - with a similar cost EVERY year in the forward estimates. a) What constituents the projected recurrent expense of almost \$20M to 'suppliers'? b) Can you confirm that the greatest expense across the IHPA is 'consulting services'? c) Given the consistency of the budget over the forward estimates, will the IHPA bring such competency in house, rather than maintain expensive outsourcing of work?	Written QoN
344	13	Fierravanti-Wells	National Health Performance Authority	Regarding Medicare Local reporting, the Framework contains 31 indicators for the Healthy Communities Reports. Some targets of relevance for Medicare Locals are already prescribed in the National Healthcare Agreement and are reflected in the initial Medicare Local Performance indicator set. a)How many indicators are in this initial set? b) How, or where, are they currently reported? c) When will the Healthy Communities Reports be published on a website similar to the My Hospital Website?	Written QoN
345	13	Fierravanti-Wells	National Health Performance Authority	According to the framework "some primary care data is already collected through the Divisions of General Practice's National Performance Indicators framework." a)How many of the 31 indicators have been reported on by the Divisions? b)Will this data continue to be available? c)Have Divisions received financial remuneration in any form for this data? d)When will this data be publicly available and how?	Written QoN
346	13	Fierravanti-Wells	National Health Performance Authority	The Portfolio Statements (p546) indicate that transfer of funding to the Authority is yet to occur. It is currently appropriated through DoHA Outcome 13, Program 13.3. Program 13.3 covers activities such as incentive funding to increase efficiency and capacity in public hospitals, programs to improve access to public dental services and support for health services in the Torres Strait. 2012-13 Budget for Program 13.3 is \$179M a)Please indicate how much of the funding for Program 13.3 will be transferred to the Authority. b)When will this transfer occur? c)There will be a commensurate decrease in funding for 13.3 once the transfer has occurred?	Written QoN

347	13	Fierravanti-Wells	National Health Performance Authority	The Framework states that 'to the greatest extent possible the Authority will use existing data sets via existing data agencies, such as the AIHW, so as to minimise the duplication of data reporting obligations.' a)Will the Authority have a budget allocation for interagency payments, in order to compensate for provision of data? b)Does any agency currently pay another agency for data or any other services?	Written QoN
348	8	Fierravanti-Wells	Progress with Indigenous Health Initiatives	Medicare item number 715: Health Assessment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. Can the Department provide a breakdown of health assessments performed by age groupings	Written QoN
349	8	Fierravanti-Wells	Indigenous Eye Health	a) Is OATSIH aware of the current status of the National Eye Health Initiative (NEHI)? b) What elements of the NEHI relevant to Indigenous Australians is expected to be delivered in 2012-13? c) Which organisations are responsible for delivering Indigenous Eye Health programs under the NEHI? d) What proportion of the Improving Eye and Ear Health Services for Indigenous Australians for Better Education and Employment Outcomes measure (in the 2009-10 Budget) is for eye health, and could the Department provide a breakdown between eye and ear initiatives by year since 2009-10? e) Has the OATSIH considered the work done by the University of Melbourne's Indigenous Eye Health Unit and specifically its report ¿ The Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision? f) What consideration has OATSIH given to this report? g) Does OATSIH concur with the reports findings in relation to the prevalence of eye health issues and the cost of closing the gap for vision? h) What actions will OATSIH take to implement the recommendations of this report? Has OATSIH raised the reports findings with State and Territory Health Departments?	Written QoN
350	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Locals	Can you explain in more detail the funding formula used for the core funding of Medicare Locals in response to my question E12-255?	Written QoN
351	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Locals	How many staff from the department are involved in the management of the Medicare Locals and divisions of general practice and the total staffing costs?	Written QoN
352	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Locals	As funding for Medicare Locals is an ongoing program why has the Tasmanian Medicare Local advertised in the Weekend Australian of 19-20 May 2012 for a project manager until 30 June 2013?	Written QoN
353	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Locals	The deputy chair of the Loddon Mallee Murray Medical Local board is actually a staff member of the local ALP member for Bendigo, Mr Steve Gibbons - who ran the independent process for his selection?	Written QoN
354	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Practice Incentives Program (PIP) Diabetes Incentive	Can you explain why, in the Budget paper on page 201, it lists the changes to the incentive as shifting from 40 to 50 per cent and not from 20 to 50 per cent?	Written QoN
355	1	Siewert	Roll-out of Opal fuel to Yalata	a) When do you expect a new Opal fuel facility to be operational in Yalata? b) Why wasn't this facility completed in 2011 as originally hoped?	Written QoN
356	12	Siewert	Aboriginal Health Workers	Are there any specific infrastructure grant programs for Aboriginal Health Workers? ie the National Rural and Remote Health Infrastructure Program.	CA 29 - 01/06/2012
357	12	Siewert	Aboriginal Health Workers	Are support services provided to Aboriginal Health Workers being monitored to see if they are being taken up and if people are going to be able to meet requirements by 1 July?	CA 30 - 01/06/2012
358	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Dental Workforce	In relation to increasing the capacity of the dental workforce, what is the yearly breakdown of the anticipated expenditure within this budget measure, identified as increasing the capacity of the dental workforce, by programs?	CA 118 - 30/05/2012

359	12	Wright	Health Professional Programs	In the distribution of mental health professionals between rural and urban areas: a)how many psychiatrists are based in rural or remote areas compared to those based in urban areas - provide the numerical figures and the percentages for psychiatrists; and b)provide the same information for psychologists, mental health nurses and social workers working as allied health professionals in the mental health field.	CA 119 - 30/05/2012
360	12	Wright	Mental Health Workers	Are there programs or initiatives to provide support, assistance or training to GPs to respond to demand particularly in relation to providing specialised mental health work.	CA 120 - 30/05/2012
361	12	Smith	Paediatric Ophthalmologists	Is the government funding any paediatric ophthalmologist training posts through the Specialist Training	CA 120 - 30/05/2012
362	10	Boyce	e-Health	In the last budget NEHTA was given a new allocation of \$233 Million. Can you tell us exactly what this money will be spent on?	Written QoN
363	10	Boyce	eHealth	Can you provide the baseline research that was used to support the PC part of the PCEHR?	Written QoN
364	10	Boyce	eHealth	Nehta has sent out to software vendors a License Agreement for Testing and a License Agreement for Use of Healthcare Identifiers but both these documents relate to the testing period and not the 'live' rollout due in 18 days time (at the time of writing). These contractual agreements for the live PCEHR are crucial to all parties as they relate to issues of privacy, liability and tough provisions for 'failure', negligence and malfeasance. As in any contractual situation the software vendors need time to examine the contracts and negotiate changes before signing. If this system is to be launched in 18 days, as you have claimed for years, why is it that these crucial draft contracts still have not been given to the system's software vendors?	Written QoN
365	10	Boyce	eHealth	Does Nehta accept that the issue of liability is an extremely vexed matter that may take months of negotiation to clarify before any consensus is reached?	Written QoN
366	10	Boyce	eHealth	a)Is it not true that there will be no live roll-out of the PCEHR on July1? b)When do you now expect this	Written QoN
367	10	Boyce	PCEHR Liability	At the time of writing we are 24 days away from launching the PCEHR into the public space and yet it seems that crucial issues of liability have not been worked out and in fact vendors and clinical participants are refusing to sign contracts prepared by and given to them by NEHTA because of widespread disquiet with provisions in those contracts to do with 'liability' issues. Accordingly I ask the following questions; a)Why have contracts been prepared by NEHTA that contain clauses in regard to liability when these issues are still the subject of negotiation and far from being resolved? b)In this regard please note the evidence given by Dr Mitchell in the recent May Budget estimates (See Page 91 Estimates transcript May 30); "So one of the bodies of work that we did quite early was to work with the Australian Medical Association on some guidelines about what might be appropriate use of the personally controlled electronic health record. We did that with an intent to minimise risk and to set some peer standards around the use of the product. Now, those guidelines are currently in draft form and they are still being widely consulted on through the profession."	Written QoN
368	10	Boyce	PCEHR Liability	Key medical indemnity insurers are warning GPs not to participate as they could be exposed to a new wave of litigation. Insurers are advising doctors not to use the e-Health records until the issues are settled. President of Medical Defence Australia Julian Rait said his organisation had serious concerns about the legal liabilities doctors would face if they used the Personally Controlled e-Health Record (PCEHR) and would "advise members not to participate until these problems are properly addressed". In the view of Nehta and Doha what are the problems the medical community is concerned about regarding the issue of liability?	Written QoN

369	10	Boyce	PCEHR Liability	The chairman of the Australian Medical Association's GP Council, Brian Morton, said the contract doctors would have to sign would put the legal liability on the GP. "Even if the system was hacked it would be the doctor's problem not the governments." Could you provide a detailed response to this concern?	Written QoN
370	10	Boyce	PCEHR Liability	Doctors have also expressed grave concern that under the e-Health rules government officials would have the right to enter a doctor's surgery, seize all computers and take them away as part of an investigation. Is this correct and if not why not?	Written QoN
371	10	Boyce	PCEHR Liability	NEHTA and DOHA were both asked in the recent May Budget estimates "who takes the rap on safety" and "Who takes the responsibility within the government system?" Mr Fleming replied in a number of ways by saying the following; 'It was a shared responsibility'; 'It must be fit for purpose'; 'NEHTA takes responsibility for all of the steps'; 'Consumer ownership of the PCEHR can be considered another safety mechanism. This is very much about consumer empowerment. As part of this process, the consumer will have a lot more information than they have ever had in the past. That in itself is a safety mechanism which did not exist before.' While Jane Halton referred to a personal family anecdote that, in her view, indicated that the 'new' system will be safer but, "That does not mean nothing will go wrong. Sometimes things do go wrong, but they do now." Clearly the question regarding who is liable if things do go wrong was avoided and not answered. a)Could you please provide a detailed statement regarding who does take the rap if something goes wrong with the system, the software, its inputs and its management? b) In that context, who is in charge of E-Health IT governance in Australia? c) What national, independent body with adequate statutory powers is	Written QoN
372	10	Boyce	eHealth	During the May Estimates there was the following question and answer exchange between Senator Sinodinos and Ms Huxtable: Sinodinos: "If you are a consumer in one of these areas and you log on to this on 1 July, what functions will you be able to access? Mr Fleming: The discussion around functionality is probably more for DoHA. Ms Huxtable: The 1 July commitment is around the capacity of consumers to register for a PCEHR. The expectation is that from 1 July a consumer can register. That can be done either through a Medicare shopfront or a Medicare call centre. There will also be an online registration capacity which may not be available from 1 July but will be available very soon thereafter. a)Remembering the simple question, what is meant by, "The expectation is that from 1 July a consumer can register." Does that mean they will be able to or they won't be able to register as of July 1? Yes or No? b)If interested consumers won't be able to register on July 1, doesn't that mean that nothing, no functions for consumers will be available as at July 1?	Written QoN
373	10	Boyce	eHealth	What is the total State & Territory Government spend on the PCEHR?	Written QoN
374	10	Boyce	eHealth	For each of the 12 Pilot sites, how much has been spent by NEHTA?	Written QoN
375	10	Boyce	eHealth	What is the ongoing budget for each of the 12 pilot sites?	Written QoN
376	10	Boyce	eHealth	What evaluation has been done of the PCEHR?	Written QoN
377	10	Boyce	eHealth	a)Will you provide a complete copy of the Benefits Evaluation report on the PCEHR prepared by PriceWaterhouseCoopers for NEHTA? b)Can NEHTA, or the Department provide the committee with a copy of the Deloitte report titled;" The national PCEHR system: relationship to the 2010 national IEHR business case"	Written QoN
378	5	Fierravanti-Wells	ACT GPSC	In respect to the Commonwealth-led Invitation To Apply for the ACT GP Super Clinic - a) can you tell me the dates that the Departmental Application Assessment Panel commenced and concluded for the ACT GP Super Clinic? and b) how long did the Panel take to do its work?	CA 13 - 31/05/2012

379	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Sunshine Coast and ACT GPSC assessment panels	In relation to both the Assessment Panels for the Sunshine Coast and the ACT GP Super Clinics, would there be common members on the Assessment Panels that considered the Sunshine Coast and the ACT?	CA 14 - 31/05/2012
380	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Grafton GPSC	Does Ochre Health's original application for Grafton specify that concession card holders and children under 16 would be bulk-billed?	CA 16 - 31/05/2012
381	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Ochre Health	a) Does Ochre Health Foundation Ltd have the same directors as Ochre Health Group? b) Does Ochre Health Foundation Ltd have a separate board to Ochre Health Group? c) Is Ochre Health Foundation Ltd located at the same address as Ochre Health Group? Is Ochre Health Foundation Ltd registered at the same business location as Ochre Health Group?	CA 17 - 31/05/2012
382	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Sunshine Coast and ACT GPSC's / Ochre Health	Super Clinics, can you please confirm that the applications were made by the corporate entity and not by the not-for-profit?	CA 17 - 31/05/2012
383	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Ochre Health	In relation to Ochre Health Foundation Ltd, can you a) check whether the foundation had any role in any other Ochre Health Group entity; and b) check the involvement of both the corporate entity and the foundation in any GP Super Clinic?	CA 17 - 31/05/2012
384	5	McKenzie	Sorell GPSC	What date did the Department execute the Deed of Mutual Termination with Sorell Integrated Health?	CA 33 - 31/05/2012
385	0	Fierravanti-Wells	Clean Energy Future program	Are positive airway pressure machines and dialysis machines covered by the Clean Energy Future programs essential medical equipment payments?	CA 10 - 30/05/2012
386	0	Waters	SEWPaC	a) Has SEWPaC ever approached your department for advice on social and, particularly, health impacts of major projects that are being proposed and have come to the minister for a decision? b) How frequently has this happened - is it rare or is it common?	CA 14 - 30/05/2012
387	0	Waters	SEWPaC	a) Does the environment minister or SEWPaC regularly request input from the department of health on major projects that are expected to have health, social or community impacts? b) Have they ever requested written advice, or advice in any other format?	CA 14 - 30/05/2012
388	0	Waters	Social Impact Assessment	a) Could you describe the process of a social impact assessment, where health impacts are relevant, that the department would undertake if requested by the environment minister for such advice? b) Do you have the relevant personnel in house to look at the health impacts of a major project or would you outsource that?	CA 14 - 30/05/2012
389	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Mental Health	a)What is the progress of the government¿s \$2 billion mental health package it announced last year? b)How much has been spent and on what? For e.g., what has been opened or set up etc?	Written QoN
390	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Aged Care Bonds	When the government released its Living Longer, Living Better package, the Prime Minister emphasised that some aged care bonds had cost \$2.6 million. a)How many older Australian's have paid a \$2.6 million bond and what state do they live in? b)What is the average cost of Bonds (nationally and by state)? c)How many providers charge a bond? d)How many bonds are there?	Written QoN
391	1	Bushby	Cigarette Plain Packaging	Can the Department please state the following in regards to the newly implemented plain-packaging on cigarettes: a) Whether it has received any representations from small business retail associations on concerns that they have on the government's implementation timeframe for plain packaging b) What the Department's response was to these concerns c) Whether the Department has provided any advice to the health minister or small business minister in regards to this d) If so, on what date was this advice given?	Written QoN

392	1	Bushby	Cigarette Plain Packaging	Under the relevant legislation, licensed tobacco retailers caught selling non-mandated plain packaged tobacco products after the 1st of December 2012 will be liable for a fine of up to \$220,000 despite the Christmas period being the busiest period for retailers. Can the Department please advise whether: a) The Department will be enforcing fines for breaches by retailers? b) Will any exemption period be provided to small retailers who sell tobacco, given that some retailers who are smaller and are located in regional areas will experience a lower turnover and would be able to use the Christmas period as a time to remove the old stock? c) Has the Department provided any advice to the minister on this issue? d) What was the date of that advice?	Written QoN
393	1	Smith	International Travel	a) How many international trips were taken by NICNAS in the last 12 months? b) How were these trips funded? c) How were these trips approved (answered at Budget Estimates by the Secretary) d) How are the policy priorities or activities that involves that international travel determined (answered at Budget Estimates by Marion Healy - NICNAS may add to response). Refer to QoN E12-040	CA 89 - 31/05/2012
394	1	Waters	Priority Existing Chemicals (PEC) Assessment Reports	What is the average time and cost of Priority Existing Chemicals (PEC)? (this was asked by Senator Larissa Waters, and was asked in the context of the fact that NICNAS has conducted 220 PEC assessments to date).	CA 90 - 31/05/2012
395	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Complex Trauma	In terms of GPs and training available for GPs - and whilst I appreciate this is probably for another part of the department - I want to ask about assisting them to screen for what is really complex truma, such as childhood abuse and neglect, which really may not manifest itself but does perhaps later in life, when the present to a doctor for A and B but really the problem is C and D, which was a consequence of childhood trauma and abuse. Since GPs are the first port of call, is there anywhere in the department where this sort of training assistance can be given?	CA 54 - 30/05/2012
396	1	Di Natale	Persistent Organic Pollutants	These questions relate to polybrominated flame retardants (PBDEs): pentabromodiphenyl ether (pentaBDE) and octabromodiphenyl ether (octaBDE). Australia supported the listing of these chemicals as Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS) under the Stockholm Convention in 2010. I understand that the Government is currently considering ratification under the domestic treaty making process, but immediate concerns have been raised regarding the impact of these chemicals on the population, particularly children. The Stockholm Convention Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Review Committee expressed concern that brominated flame retardants listed in the treaty could be used in recycled goods such as carpet backing. 'The POPRC technical review says , 'The incorporation of PentaBDE in carpet cushion which generates the highest levels of dust in the zones where children are playing is therefore of particular concern. It is notable that dust release increases as carpet ages thus exposing the children of poorer families more heavily - an exposure reflected in the published literature'. a) Has FSANZ or the Department of Health and Aging responded in any way to the above warning from the Stockholm Convention Persistent Organic Pollutants technical review?	Written QoN
397	1	Di Natale	Persistent Organic Pollutants	a) What products currently imported or manufactured in Australia potentially contain pentabromodiphenyl ether? b) Are there any proposals for labelling products potentially containing pentabromodiphenyl ether or other means of warning consumers? c) Are imported products, such as carpet underlay made from recycled materials tested for pentabromodiphenyl ether before they are accepted into Australia? Please detail the results of any such testing.	Written QoN
398	1	Xenophon	PIP Implants	According to the budget papers, the rebate for scans for women with PIP implants is listed to end after 2012/13. Is there any scope to extend this scheme, as recommended by various health professionals during the Community Affairs inquiry into these implants?	Written QoN

399	1	Xenophon	PIP Implants	In his evidence to the committee, the President of the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons, Associate Professor Rodney Cooter, stated that scans every two years would be suitable. Given the average lifespan of most breast implants (ten years), this would mean only four more sets of scans would need to be carried out. What is the Department's position on this? The Budget Papers also included a savings measure relating to joint prosthesis with higher than	Written QoN
400	1	Xenophon	PIP Implants	expected revisions rates, which will be removed from the Prosthesis List. a) How will this operate? b) How long will devices have to display this rate before they are removed? c) How many devices will be removed immediately? d) What processes will a device need to go through to determine that the fault is with the device and not with the way it's being implanted and so on before it's removed from the list? e) Presumably this move will rely on data received from the NJRR. Are there any plans to make this registry mandatory to ensure that all possible data is collected, or will there be other ways of	Written QoN
401	1	Xenophon	PIP Implants	collecting data? It's obviously better to make sure these devices are never implanted in the first place. What measures will go hand in hand with this to ensure that only the best devices enter the market in the first place?	Written QoN
402	1	Xenophon	PIP Implants	According to the Department's submission to the PIP inquiry, the first adverse event report received by the TGA in relation to the PIP implants was in October 2002, when the device was available under the Special Access Scheme. a) Who made this report? b) What action was taken? c) How many reports did the TGA receive before the device was approved for listing on the ATGR, and where did these come from? How many after it was recalled?	Written QoN
403	13	Fierravanti-Wells	National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Service (NPA IPHS)	Provide breakdown by State and Territory of the 370 subacute beds delivered to date under the NPA IPHS.	CA 36 - 30/05/12
404	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Reform	Were experts consulted in relation to the elective surgery targets and emergency department targets? If so, who were they and when did that consultation occur?	CA 19 - 30/05/12
405	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Reform	Did the Department prepare detailed written advice or submissions on a referendum proposal to take over the health system, as referred to by Attorney-General the Hon. Nicola Roxon on 24 February 2012 on Sky News AM Agenda?	CA 17 - 30/05/12
406	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Tasmainia Health Budget Cuts	Provide historical figures about the percentage increase in emergency department presentations in Tasmania.	CA 39 - 30/05/12
407	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Tasmanian Health Budget Cuts	Provide previously published data on elective surgery patients in Tasmania being seen within the clinically recommended times by urgency category.	CA 39 - 30/05/12
408	8	Siewert	Infrastructure Support for Aboriginal Medical Services	Could you perhaps take on notice the allocation of infrastructure support for Aboriginal medical services in particular places in the Kimberley?	CA 25 - 01/06/12
409	2	Fierravanti-Wells	Concessional Patient Data	Do you have any data or details in relation to the proprotion of patients in total, including concessional patients, who would be expected to see a reduction in the co-payment of their medicines as a result of the price cuts?	CA 103 - 31/05/12
410	0	Smith	Flexible Funds	In relation to the 18 new funds could you advise me of the quantum attached to each of those funds? Following on from that, can you advise how many funding applications were made for each of the 18 funds and how many of those were successful?	CA 15 - 30/05/12

411	9	Fierravanti-Wells	Private Health Insurance	It is thought that as a result of the private health insurance means testing of rebates many perople would upgrade their insurance thereby reducing the premiums. There are a number of ways that this could be achieved. What are the current and historical trends in the number of private health insurance policies with exclusions? If you do not mind perhaps you could take that on notice and perhaps you could also provide some information of the types of exclusions - for example, are there new types of exclusions emerging in the market?	CA 97 - 31/05/12
412	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Ochre Health	Has the previous Minister, Minister roxon, or Minister Plibersek ever met with any representatives of Ochre Health	CA 17 - 31/05/12
413	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Swap It Campaign	It was asked in telation to the Swap It campaign. I am really impressed. Does that mean that you have the same level of detail for all nutrition swap as you have with chocolate?	CA 35 - 31/05/12
414	0	Fierravanti-Wells	Former Prime Minister Rudd	One last question, if I may, in relation to the bottom of page 4, the paragraph that begins: I did witness quite a lot of very bad behaviour to staff and to officials. I don't think that that's a good way to run a government. I asked Ms Huxtable about this. My question is: does the Department have any evidence, or do you, Ms Halton, have any evidence, to suggest that the then Prime Minister Rudd behaved in any way inappropriately, offensively or aggressively towards officials of the department or its agencies? Were there any complaints made, that you or any of your departmental officials are aware of, about the way the then Prime Minister spoke or behaved towards DoHA officials?	CA 30 - 30/05/12
415	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Health and Hospital Table	Just in terms of infrastructure and in relation to those various rounds. We have lists of all the projects but do we have the lists of projects that have been completed, or estimated completion dates for those projects? a bit like the GP superclinic table - that would be helpful. And presumably in relation to the other rounds there are estimates completion dates?	CA 100 - 30/05/12
416	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Health and Hospital Table	Number of applications in Regional Priority Rounds I am just talking about the regional priorities rounds, the two rounds, so my questions are specifically in relation to those two rounds. How many applications were there?	CA 100 - 30/05/12
417	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Royal Hobart Hospital	Perhaps the department can tell me what has happened with the Hobart government-are they contributing to the Hobart Hospital? Ms Flanagan: Yes, that is certainly my understanding. We have a contract with them. Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: It looked precarious at one stage, but it is back on foot? Ms Flanagan: Yes, it is. Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: What is the amount? Ms Flanagan: I do not know whether my colleagues have detail of the Royal Hobart Hospital contract here; if not, we will take it on notice. Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS: Could you take it on notice. My understanding is that it is less than what was originally intended.	CA 103 - 30/05/12
418	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Healt and Hospitals Fund - 2011 Regional Priority Round	Can you provide me with at least the locations of the projects? And could you take advice on what details you can release to me within the parameters of the process?	CA 103 - 30/05/12
419	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Kyneton Hospital - additional funding requested	Given the delay, and the obvious increase in construction costs that will have been incurred over that time, is there any talk about increasing the amount of money available?	CA 103 - 30/05/12
420	9	Fierravanti-Wells	Private Health Insurance	Can you advise how many members have undertaken prepayment of premiums? Is that data that would be available. Perhaps you could take that on notice	CA 97 - 31/05/12
421	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Swap It Campaign	Can I ask the Department to taken on notice how much it costs - the departmental costs before the agency took it over?	CA 85 - 31/05/12

422	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Contamination of CSL Albumin	Was there something written other than what TGA distributed? that is what I was talking about in terms of a written notification that has gone out there. Would you take that on notice?	CA 53 - 31/05/12
423	0	Boyce	Immigration Health Issues	a)It would seem from this would it not that the level of co-operation between DOHA and DIAC have some serious problems? b)How do these failures, information gaps affect the nation's knowledge of and ability to deal with the introduction of infectious disease to Australia? c)Is DIAC now complying with the provision of items (ii) to (iv)? d)If the answer is yes, when did they start complying in full with what they were supposed to do? e)Given the DOHA claimed it needed this information to determine the 'communicable desease health threat' to Australia would its non-delivery by DIAC mean DOHA couldn't determine or assess health threats to the Australian population?	Written QoN
424	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Block funding for hospitals	Across Australia in relation to what hospitals are going to be block funded and what-Ms Flanagan: Certainly in terms of principles it is very clear that for a lot of small rural hospital it was always intended that they be block funded. that has never been a controversial issue. Senator Fierravanti-Wells - No. I guess the figures and lists and those sorts of things - we are not at that point yet but we are close? Ms Flanagan: We could certainly take it on notice and give you a breakdown of which hospitals - Senator Fierravanti-Wells: per jurisdiction - yes thankyou	CA 28 - 30/05/12