Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO 2012-13 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2

Question No: 503

Topic: NRAS

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Payne asked:

Please describe how budgeting is done for NRAS, and how much the budget relies on participant reported delivery dates; the participant reported delivery is 24,393 dwellings by April 2013, but this cannot now be met; how does this affect the NRAS budget for 2012-13 and 2013-14?

Answer:

Budget estimates for the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) are determined by drawing on information provided by approved participants, departmental experience of delivery timeframe and trends. These estimates are reviewed and updated regularly. Most recently the estimates were reviewed at the 2012–13 Mid-Year Economic Fiscal Outlook.

If there are delays, the funds committed to those NRAS projects are moved into an appropriate forward year, subject to agreement by the government. Specifically, if there are delays in the delivery of dwellings due by April 2013, the NRAS budget for 2012–13 and 2013–14 will be amended as appropriate in the budget or additional estimates processes, when the estimate is reviewed.