

# **Community Affairs Committee**

**Examination of Additional Estimates 2006-2007**

**Additional Information Received**

**CONSOLIDATED VOLUME 2**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Outcomes 4 to 15**

**MAY 2007**



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATING TO THE EXAMINATION OF ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2006-2007

Included in this volume are answers to written and oral questions taken on notice and tabled papers relating to the additional budget estimates hearing on 13 February 2007

**\* Please note that the tabling date of 10 May 2007 is the proposed tabling date for answers where this date is indicated**

### HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

| Senator | Quest. No.                 | Outcome 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing                            | Vol. 2 Page No. | Date tabled in the Senate* |
|---------|----------------------------|---|-----------------|----------------------------|
| McLucas |                            | Aged care places December 2006 stocktake                              | 1-13            | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | T1<br>tabled at<br>hearing | ODA expenditure by DoHA 2000-01 to 2005-06                            | 14              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 86-89                      | Aged care approvals round 2006/07                                     | 15-18           | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 93                         | Spot checks   | 19              |                            |
| McLucas | 81                         | Commonwealth Carelink Centres   | 20-21           | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 82, 83                     | People assessed as requiring aged care                                | 22-23           | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 74                         | Prior knowledge of bed application applications                       | 24              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 75                         | Quality assurance   | 25              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 84                         | Canterbury Multicultural Aged and Disability Support Service          | 26              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 85                         | Aged care approvals round 2006/07                                     | 27              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 90, 91                     | Complaints direct to Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency Ltd | 28-29           | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 92, 94                     | Spot checks   | 30-31           | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 95                         | Out of hours visits   | 32              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 96                         | Star of the Sea Hostel  | 33-35           | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 97                         | Curie Nursing Home  | 36              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 98-99                      | Community Aged Care Packages  | 37-40           | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 142                        | 2006 aged care approvals round  | 41-47           | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 146                        | Star of the Sea   | 48              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 147                        | Curie Nursing Home  | 49              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 171                        | Aged Care Services Australia Group                                    | 50              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 172                        | Viewhills Manor   | 51              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 80                         | Commonwealth Carelink Centres   | 52              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 100                        | HACC  | 53              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 144                        | CMADSS  | 54-76           | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 139                        | Securing the future of aged care for Australians                      | 77-78           | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 141                        | Complaints (Bates)  | 79              | 10.05.07                   |
| McLucas | 140                        | Academic research appearing in the Adelaide Advertiser                | 80              | 10.05.07                   |

| <b>Senator</b>   | <b>Quest. No.</b> | <b>Outcome 5: Primary Care</b>  | <b>Vol. 2 Page No.</b> | <b>Date tabled in the Senate*</b> |
|--|-------------------|---|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Brown  | 160               | Round the Clock Medicare: Investing in After Hours GP Services (IAHGPs) Program           | 81-83                  | 10.05.07                          |
| Stott Despoja  | 34                | Medicare items for non-directive pregnancy support counselling                            | 84                     | 10.05.07                          |
| Evans  | 122               | Round the Clock Medicare  | 85-86                  | 10.05.07                          |
| <b>Outcome 7: Hearing Services</b>                             |                   |   |                        |                                   |
| Crossin  | 5                 | Hearing services  | 87                     | 10.05.07                          |
| <b>Outcome 8: Indigenous Health</b>                            |                   |   |                        |                                   |
| Evans  | 68 amended        | Health for life – Indigenous Health [relating to supplementary budget estimates 1 Nov 06] | 88                     | 10.05.07                          |
| Crossin  | 186               | Advertising campaign  | 89                     | 10.05.07                          |
| Crossin  | 63                | Trachoma antibiotic resistance surveillance   | 90                     | 10.05.07                          |
| Crossin  | 76                | Budget for roll-out Opal fuel in Alice Springs  | 91                     | 10.05.07                          |
| Siewert  | 77                | Monitoring of media in Alice Springs in regard to the roll-out of Opal fuel               | 92                     | 10.05.07                          |
| Crossin  | 184               | Opal fuel roll out communication campaign and the use of radio advertisements             | 93                     | 10.05.07                          |
| <b>Outcome 9: Private Health</b>                               |                   |   |                        |                                   |
|  |                   | Letter from CEO, Private Health Insurance Administration Council dated 14 Feb 07          | 94                     | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 173               | Membership  | 95                     | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 177               | Private health insurance advertising campaign   | 96                     | 10.05.07                          |
| Webber   | 11                | Possible overservicing of privately insured patients                                      | 97                     | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 174               | Private health insurance covered by electorate  | 98                     | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 175               | Higher rebates for older Australians  | 99-100                 | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 176               | PHI participation by older Australians  | 101                    | 10.05.07                          |
| Evans  | 126               | Private health insurance advertising campaign   | 102                    | 10.05.07                          |
| <b>Outcome 10: Health System Capacity and Quality</b>          |                   |   |                        |                                   |
| [Q128 relating to Outcome 10 is listed below after Outcome 15] |                   |   |                        |                                   |
| <b>Outcome 11: Mental Health</b>                               |                   |   |                        |                                   |
| McLucas  | 161               | COAG programs   | 103-109                | 10.05.07                          |
| <b>Outcome 12: Health Workforce Capacity</b>                   |                   |   |                        |                                   |
| Evans  | 130               | Districts of workforce shortage   | 110                    | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 162               | Areas of workforce shortage   | 111-112                | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 164               | Overseas trained doctors  | 113                    | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 165               | Workforce shortage determination  | 114                    | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 166               | GP population ratios  | 115                    | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 167               | Medicare billing  | 116                    | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 168               | Dental workforce  | 117                    | 10.05.07                          |
| Evans  | 132               | GP and other workforce data by electorate   | 118                    | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 169               | More doctors for outer-metro areas program  | 119-121                | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 163               | Overseas trained doctors  | 122                    | 10.05.07                          |
| McLucas  | 170               | Workforce programs  | 123-126                | 10.05.07                          |

| <b>Senator</b>  | <b>Quest. No.</b>       | <b>Outcome 13: Acute Care</b>     | <b>Vol. 2 Page No.</b> | <b>Date tabled in the Senate*</b> |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Webber  | 8                       | Dental                            | 127                    | 10.05.07                          |
| Webber  | 9, 10, 12, 17           | Acute care                        | 128-131                | 10.05.07                          |
| Evans   | 103-108                 | Dental                            | 132-138                | 10.05.07                          |
| Stott Despoja   | 69-70                   | Cord blood                        | 139-140                | 10.05.07                          |
| Brown   | 179                     | Organ donation rates              | 141                    | 10.05.07                          |
| Webber<br>McLucas                                     | 18, 13, 14, 15, 16, 178 | Acute care                        | 142-147                | 10.05.07                          |
| <b>Outcome 14: Health and Medical Research</b>        |                         |                                   |                        |                                   |
| Stott Despoja   | 22, 23, 145, 24         | Research involving human embryos  | 148-152                | 10.05.07                          |
| <b>Outcome 15: Biosecurity and Emergency Response</b> |                         |                                   |                        |                                   |
| Evans   | 134                     | Exercise Cumpston 06              | 153                    | 10.05.07                          |
| Evans   | 135                     | Flu vaccine                       | 154                    | 10.05.07                          |
| Evans   | 109, 110                | Climate change                    | 155-157                | 10.05.07                          |
| <b>Outcome 10: Health System Capacity and Quality</b> |                         |                                   |                        |                                   |
| Evans   | 128                     | Strengthening cancer care package | 158-162                | 10.05.07                          |

### Total Allocated Places by State/Territory

as at 31 December 2006

| State/<br>Territory | High Care     | Low Care       | Total<br>Residential | Community<br>Care | Transition<br>Care | TOTAL<br>PLACES |
|---------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| NSW                 | 32,821        | 33,905         | <b>66,726</b>        | 14,203            | 703                | <b>81,632</b>   |
| VIC                 | 23,041        | 26,570         | <b>49,611</b>        | 10,843            | 502                | <b>60,956</b>   |
| QLD                 | 15,799        | 18,271         | <b>34,070</b>        | 7,398             | 351                | <b>41,819</b>   |
| SA                  | 8,471         | 8,768          | <b>17,239</b>        | 3,753             | 121                | <b>21,113</b>   |
| WA                  | 7,715         | 9,040          | <b>16,755</b>        | 3,800             | 160                | <b>20,715</b>   |
| TAS                 | 2,540         | 2,447          | <b>4,987</b>         | 1,148             | 52                 | <b>6,187</b>    |
| NT                  | 336           | 243            | <b>579</b>           | 725               | -                  | <b>1,304</b>    |
| ACT                 | 1,003         | 1,392          | <b>2,395</b>         | 606               | 35                 | <b>3,036</b>    |
| <b>Australia</b>    | <b>91,726</b> | <b>100,636</b> | <b>192,362</b>       | <b>42,476</b>     | <b>1,924</b>       | <b>236,762</b>  |

### Total Allocated Ratio by State/Territory

as at 31 December 2006

| State/<br>Territory | High Care   | Low Care    | Total<br>Residential | Community<br>Care | Transition<br>Care | TOTAL<br>PLACES |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| NSW                 | 48.7        | 50.3        | <b>99.0</b>          | 21.1              | 1.0                | <b>121.2</b>    |
| VIC                 | 46.4        | 53.5        | <b>99.8</b>          | 21.8              | 1.0                | <b>122.7</b>    |
| QLD                 | 45.9        | 53.1        | <b>98.9</b>          | 21.5              | 1.0                | <b>121.4</b>    |
| SA                  | 48.6        | 50.3        | <b>99.0</b>          | 21.5              | 0.7                | <b>121.2</b>    |
| WA                  | 45.6        | 53.4        | <b>99.1</b>          | 22.5              | 0.9                | <b>122.5</b>    |
| TAS                 | 50.1        | 48.3        | <b>98.4</b>          | 22.7              | 1.0                | <b>122.1</b>    |
| NT                  | 65.3        | 47.2        | <b>112.6</b>         | 140.9             | -                  | <b>253.5</b>    |
| ACT                 | 45.0        | 62.4        | <b>107.4</b>         | 27.2              | 1.6                | <b>136.2</b>    |
| <b>Australia</b>    | <b>47.4</b> | <b>52.0</b> | <b>99.3</b>          | <b>21.9</b>       | <b>1.0</b>         | <b>122.3</b>    |

**Notes:**

Tables include flexible care places: Transition Care (TC), Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH) and EACH Dementia, Multi-Purpose Services (MPS), permanently allocated Innovative Care (IC) places and places under the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Strategy (ATSI).

MPS, IC and ATSI flexible care places are notionally allocated as high care, low care and community aged care packages.

Community care includes Community Aged Care Packages (CACP), EACH and EACH Dementia places

| As at December 2006 |                           | Total Allocated Places |               |               |                |                 | Total Allocated Ratio |             |             |              |                |                 |              |
|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| State / Territory   | Aged Care Planning Region | HIGH                   | LOW           | RESI          | Community Care | Transition Care | TOTAL PLACES          | HIGH        | LOW         | RESI         | Community Care | Transition Care | TOTAL        |
| <b>NSW</b>          | Central Coast             | 1,690                  | 2,027         | <b>3,717</b>  | 957            |                 | <b>4,674</b>          | 40.3        | 48.3        | <b>88.6</b>  | 22.8           |                 | <b>111.4</b> |
|                     | Central West              | 789                    | 957           | <b>1,746</b>  | 374            |                 | <b>2,120</b>          | 43.6        | 52.9        | <b>96.5</b>  | 20.7           |                 | <b>117.2</b> |
|                     | Far North Coast           | 1,546                  | 1,977         | <b>3,523</b>  | 762            |                 | <b>4,285</b>          | 42.1        | 53.9        | <b>96.0</b>  | 20.8           |                 | <b>116.8</b> |
|                     | Hunter                    | 2,819                  | 3,253         | <b>6,072</b>  | 1,297          |                 | <b>7,369</b>          | 44.8        | 51.7        | <b>96.4</b>  | 20.6           |                 | <b>117.0</b> |
|                     | Illawarra                 | 1,796                  | 2,499         | <b>4,295</b>  | 1,031          |                 | <b>5,326</b>          | 41.5        | 57.7        | <b>99.2</b>  | 23.8           |                 | <b>123.1</b> |
|                     | Inner West                | 3,289                  | 1,694         | <b>4,983</b>  | 824            |                 | <b>5,807</b>          | 79.1        | 40.8        | <b>119.9</b> | 19.8           |                 | <b>139.7</b> |
|                     | Mid North Coast           | 1,736                  | 2,368         | <b>4,104</b>  | 929            |                 | <b>5,033</b>          | 42.0        | 57.3        | <b>99.3</b>  | 22.5           |                 | <b>121.8</b> |
|                     | Nepean                    | 1,272                  | 904           | <b>2,176</b>  | 455            |                 | <b>2,631</b>          | 60.8        | 43.2        | <b>104.1</b> | 21.8           |                 | <b>125.8</b> |
|                     | New England               | 855                    | 1,002         | <b>1,857</b>  | 418            |                 | <b>2,275</b>          | 45.5        | 53.4        | <b>98.9</b>  | 22.3           |                 | <b>121.2</b> |
|                     | Northern Sydney           | 4,638                  | 4,306         | <b>8,944</b>  | 1,614          |                 | <b>10,558</b>         | 55.5        | 51.6        | <b>107.1</b> | 19.3           |                 | <b>126.4</b> |
|                     | Orana Far West            | 596                    | 912           | <b>1,508</b>  | 401            |                 | <b>1,909</b>          | 38.5        | 59.0        | <b>97.5</b>  | 25.9           |                 | <b>123.4</b> |
|                     | Riverina/Murray           | 1,266                  | 1,540         | <b>2,806</b>  | 579            |                 | <b>3,385</b>          | 44.7        | 54.4        | <b>99.1</b>  | 20.4           |                 | <b>119.5</b> |
|                     | South East Sydney         | 3,884                  | 3,705         | <b>7,589</b>  | 1,746          |                 | <b>9,335</b>          | 46.5        | 44.3        | <b>90.8</b>  | 20.9           |                 | <b>111.7</b> |
|                     | South West Sydney         | 2,890                  | 3,137         | <b>6,027</b>  | 1,325          |                 | <b>7,352</b>          | 46.9        | 50.9        | <b>97.8</b>  | 21.5           |                 | <b>119.3</b> |
|                     | Southern Highlands        | 891                    | 1,331         | <b>2,222</b>  | 456            |                 | <b>2,678</b>          | 39.4        | 58.8        | <b>98.2</b>  | 20.1           |                 | <b>118.3</b> |
| Western Sydney      | 2,864                     | 2,293                  | <b>5,157</b>  | 1,035         |                | <b>6,192</b>    | 54.0                  | 43.2        | <b>97.1</b> | 19.5         |                | <b>116.6</b>    |              |
| <b>NSW TOTAL</b>    |                           | <b>32,821</b>          | <b>33,905</b> | <b>66,726</b> | <b>14,203</b>  | <b>703</b>      | <b>81,632</b>         | <b>48.7</b> | <b>50.3</b> | <b>99.0</b>  | <b>21.1</b>    | <b>1.0</b>      | <b>121.2</b> |
| <b>VIC</b>          | Barwon-South Western      | 1,824                  | 2,233         | <b>4,057</b>  | 909            |                 | <b>4,966</b>          | 44.2        | 54.1        | <b>98.3</b>  | 22.0           |                 | <b>120.4</b> |
|                     | Eastern Metro             | 4,411                  | 5,460         | <b>9,871</b>  | 2,131          |                 | <b>12,002</b>         | 44.3        | 54.9        | <b>99.2</b>  | 21.4           |                 | <b>120.6</b> |
|                     | Gippsland                 | 1,202                  | 1,554         | <b>2,756</b>  | 648            |                 | <b>3,404</b>          | 41.9        | 54.2        | <b>96.1</b>  | 22.6           |                 | <b>118.7</b> |
|                     | Grampians                 | 1,027                  | 1,263         | <b>2,290</b>  | 537            |                 | <b>2,827</b>          | 43.8        | 53.9        | <b>97.7</b>  | 22.9           |                 | <b>120.6</b> |
|                     | Hume                      | 1,259                  | 1,537         | <b>2,796</b>  | 620            |                 | <b>3,416</b>          | 46.0        | 56.1        | <b>102.1</b> | 22.6           |                 | <b>124.7</b> |
|                     | Loddon-Mallee             | 1,414                  | 1,851         | <b>3,265</b>  | 742            |                 | <b>4,007</b>          | 41.8        | 54.7        | <b>96.5</b>  | 21.9           |                 | <b>118.5</b> |
|                     | Northern Metro            | 3,475                  | 3,610         | <b>7,085</b>  | 1,628          |                 | <b>8,713</b>          | 49.1        | 51.0        | <b>100.1</b> | 23.0           |                 | <b>123.1</b> |
|                     | Southern Metro            | 5,941                  | 6,146         | <b>12,087</b> | 2,508          |                 | <b>14,595</b>         | 49.4        | 51.2        | <b>100.6</b> | 20.9           |                 | <b>121.5</b> |
|                     | Western Metro             | 2,488                  | 2,916         | <b>5,404</b>  | 1,120          |                 | <b>6,524</b>          | 47.9        | 56.2        | <b>104.1</b> | 21.6           |                 | <b>125.7</b> |
| <b>VIC TOTAL</b>    |                           | <b>23,041</b>          | <b>26,570</b> | <b>49,611</b> | <b>10,843</b>  | <b>502</b>      | <b>60,956</b>         | <b>46.4</b> | <b>53.5</b> | <b>99.8</b>  | <b>21.8</b>    | <b>1.0</b>      | <b>122.7</b> |

| As at December 2006 |                               | Total Allocated Places |               |              |              |               | Total Allocated Ratio |             |              |              |              |              |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>QLD</b>          | Brisbane North                | 2,191                  | 2,049         | <b>4,240</b> | 770          | <b>5,010</b>  | 53.2                  | 49.7        | <b>102.9</b> | 18.7         | <b>121.6</b> |              |
|                     | Brisbane South                | 2,789                  | 2,848         | <b>5,637</b> | 1,178        | <b>6,815</b>  | 49.8                  | 50.9        | <b>100.7</b> | 21.0         | <b>121.8</b> |              |
|                     | Cabool                        | 1,225                  | 1,458         | <b>2,683</b> | 571          | <b>3,254</b>  | 46.4                  | 55.2        | <b>101.6</b> | 21.6         | <b>123.2</b> |              |
|                     | Central West                  | 68                     | 54            | <b>122</b>   | 64           | <b>186</b>    | 69.2                  | 55.0        | <b>124.2</b> | 65.2         | <b>189.4</b> |              |
|                     | Darling Downs                 | 1,091                  | 1,217         | <b>2,308</b> | 437          | <b>2,745</b>  | 48.2                  | 53.7        | <b>101.9</b> | 19.3         | <b>121.2</b> |              |
|                     | Far North                     | 666                    | 850           | <b>1,516</b> | 432          | <b>1,948</b>  | 39.6                  | 50.5        | <b>90.1</b>  | 25.7         | <b>115.8</b> |              |
|                     | Fitzroy                       | 668                    | 796           | <b>1,464</b> | 339          | <b>1,803</b>  | 44.5                  | 53.1        | <b>97.6</b>  | 22.6         | <b>120.2</b> |              |
|                     | Logan River Valley            | 652                    | 959           | <b>1,611</b> | 317          | <b>1,928</b>  | 42.4                  | 62.4        | <b>104.9</b> | 20.6         | <b>125.5</b> |              |
|                     | Mackay                        | 364                    | 437           | <b>801</b>   | 201          | <b>1,002</b>  | 40.2                  | 48.2        | <b>88.4</b>  | 22.2         | <b>110.5</b> |              |
|                     | North West                    | 49                     | 78            | <b>127</b>   | 99           | <b>226</b>    | 31.4                  | 50.0        | <b>81.4</b>  | 63.5         | <b>144.9</b> |              |
|                     | Northern                      | 799                    | 787           | <b>1,586</b> | 338          | <b>1,924</b>  | 50.6                  | 49.9        | <b>100.5</b> | 21.4         | <b>121.9</b> |              |
|                     | South Coast                   | 1,936                  | 2,381         | <b>4,317</b> | 909          | <b>5,226</b>  | 42.8                  | 52.6        | <b>95.4</b>  | 20.1         | <b>115.5</b> |              |
|                     | South West                    | 74                     | 155           | <b>229</b>   | 97           | <b>326</b>    | 36.1                  | 75.7        | <b>111.8</b> | 47.4         | <b>159.2</b> |              |
|                     | Sunshine Coast                | 1,553                  | 2,124         | <b>3,677</b> | 811          | <b>4,488</b>  | 41.1                  | 56.2        | <b>97.2</b>  | 21.4         | <b>118.7</b> |              |
|                     | West Moreton                  | 523                    | 738           | <b>1,261</b> | 263          | <b>1,524</b>  | 40.2                  | 56.7        | <b>96.9</b>  | 20.2         | <b>117.1</b> |              |
| Wide Bay            | 1,151                         | 1,340                  | <b>2,491</b>  | 572          | <b>3,063</b> | 45.3          | 52.7                  | <b>98.0</b> | 22.5         | <b>120.4</b> |              |              |
| <b>QLD TOTAL</b>    | <b>15,799</b>                 | <b>18,271</b>          | <b>34,070</b> | <b>7,398</b> | <b>351</b>   | <b>41,819</b> | <b>45.9</b>           | <b>53.1</b> | <b>98.9</b>  | <b>21.5</b>  | <b>1.0</b>   | <b>121.4</b> |
| <b>SA</b>           | Eyre Peninsula                | 129                    | 182           | <b>311</b>   | 83           | <b>394</b>    | 36.3                  | 51.3        | <b>87.6</b>  | 23.4         | <b>111.0</b> |              |
|                     | Hills, Mallee & Southern      | 568                    | 675           | <b>1,243</b> | 335          | <b>1,578</b>  | 43.7                  | 51.9        | <b>95.6</b>  | 25.8         | <b>121.3</b> |              |
|                     | Metropolitan East             | 2,269                  | 1,882         | <b>4,151</b> | 591          | <b>4,742</b>  | 64.3                  | 53.4        | <b>117.7</b> | 16.8         | <b>134.5</b> |              |
|                     | Metropolitan North            | 1,522                  | 1,214         | <b>2,736</b> | 527          | <b>3,263</b>  | 60.0                  | 47.9        | <b>107.8</b> | 20.8         | <b>128.6</b> |              |
|                     | Metropolitan South            | 1,760                  | 1,904         | <b>3,664</b> | 849          | <b>4,513</b>  | 44.9                  | 48.6        | <b>93.6</b>  | 21.7         | <b>115.3</b> |              |
|                     | Metropolitan West             | 1,254                  | 1,289         | <b>2,543</b> | 616          | <b>3,159</b>  | 43.0                  | 44.2        | <b>87.1</b>  | 21.1         | <b>108.2</b> |              |
|                     | Mid North                     | 69                     | 234           | <b>303</b>   | 87           | <b>390</b>    | 19.3                  | 65.5        | <b>84.9</b>  | 24.4         | <b>109.2</b> |              |
|                     | Riverland                     | 146                    | 238           | <b>384</b>   | 118          | <b>502</b>    | 31.6                  | 51.6        | <b>83.2</b>  | 25.6         | <b>108.8</b> |              |
|                     | South East                    | 189                    | 358           | <b>547</b>   | 138          | <b>685</b>    | 30.0                  | 56.8        | <b>86.7</b>  | 21.9         | <b>108.6</b> |              |
|                     | Whyalla, Flinders & Far North | 162                    | 209           | <b>371</b>   | 163          | <b>534</b>    | 41.4                  | 53.5        | <b>94.9</b>  | 41.7         | <b>136.6</b> |              |
|                     | Yorke, Lower North & Barossa  | 403                    | 583           | <b>986</b>   | 246          | <b>1,232</b>  | 39.3                  | 56.8        | <b>96.1</b>  | 24.0         | <b>120.1</b> |              |
| <b>SA TOTAL</b>     | <b>8,471</b>                  | <b>8,768</b>           | <b>17,239</b> | <b>3,753</b> | <b>121</b>   | <b>21,113</b> | <b>48.6</b>           | <b>50.3</b> | <b>99.0</b>  | <b>21.5</b>  | <b>0.7</b>   | <b>121.2</b> |



| As at December 2006     |                              | Total Allocated Places |                |                |               |              | Total Allocated Ratio |             |             |              |              |            |              |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| <b>WA</b>               | Goldfields                   | 135                    | 135            | <b>270</b>     | 81            |              | <b>351</b>            | 52.5        | 52.5        | <b>105.0</b> | 31.5         |            | <b>136.5</b> |
|                         | Great Southern               | 293                    | 385            | <b>678</b>     | 190           |              | <b>868</b>            | 40.2        | 52.8        | <b>93.0</b>  | 26.1         |            | <b>119.1</b> |
|                         | Kimberley                    | 68                     | 92             | <b>160</b>     | 67            |              | <b>227</b>            | 59.1        | 79.9        | <b>139.0</b> | 58.2         |            | <b>197.2</b> |
|                         | Metropolitan East            | 1,245                  | 1,456          | <b>2,701</b>   | 508           |              | <b>3,209</b>          | 48.5        | 56.7        | <b>105.2</b> | 19.8         |            | <b>125.0</b> |
|                         | Metropolitan North           | 1,854                  | 2,384          | <b>4,238</b>   | 971           |              | <b>5,209</b>          | 42.6        | 54.8        | <b>97.3</b>  | 22.3         |            | <b>119.7</b> |
|                         | Metropolitan South East      | 1,622                  | 1,496          | <b>3,118</b>   | 576           |              | <b>3,694</b>          | 57.9        | 53.4        | <b>111.4</b> | 20.6         |            | <b>132.0</b> |
|                         | Metropolitan South West      | 1,634                  | 1,836          | <b>3,470</b>   | 781           |              | <b>4,251</b>          | 42.6        | 47.8        | <b>90.4</b>  | 20.4         |            | <b>110.8</b> |
|                         | Mid West                     | 178                    | 278            | <b>456</b>     | 149           |              | <b>605</b>            | 37.2        | 58.1        | <b>95.3</b>  | 31.1         |            | <b>126.5</b> |
|                         | Pilbara                      | 30                     | 53             | <b>83</b>      | 50            |              | <b>133</b>            | 44.8        | 79.2        | <b>124.1</b> | 74.7         |            | <b>198.8</b> |
|                         | South West                   | 495                    | 725            | <b>1,220</b>   | 282           |              | <b>1,502</b>          | 40.9        | 59.9        | <b>100.8</b> | 23.3         |            | <b>124.1</b> |
|                         | Wheatbelt                    | 161                    | 200            | <b>361</b>     | 145           |              | <b>506</b>            | 32.2        | 40.0        | <b>72.3</b>  | 29.0         |            | <b>101.3</b> |
| <b>WA TOTAL</b>         |                              | <b>7,715</b>           | <b>9,040</b>   | <b>16,755</b>  | <b>3,800</b>  | <b>160</b>   | <b>20,715</b>         | <b>45.6</b> | <b>53.4</b> | <b>99.1</b>  | <b>22.5</b>  | <b>0.9</b> | <b>122.5</b> |
| <b>TAS</b>              | North Western                | 515                    | 512            | <b>1,027</b>   | 257           |              | <b>1,284</b>          | 44.2        | 43.9        | <b>88.1</b>  | 22.0         |            | <b>110.1</b> |
|                         | Northern                     | 799                    | 680            | <b>1,479</b>   | 346           |              | <b>1,825</b>          | 54.7        | 46.5        | <b>101.2</b> | 23.7         |            | <b>124.8</b> |
|                         | Southern                     | 1,226                  | 1,255          | <b>2,481</b>   | 545           |              | <b>3,026</b>          | 50.2        | 51.4        | <b>101.7</b> | 22.3         |            | <b>124.0</b> |
| <b>TAS TOTAL</b>        |                              | <b>2,540</b>           | <b>2,447</b>   | <b>4,987</b>   | <b>1,148</b>  | <b>52</b>    | <b>6,187</b>          | <b>50.1</b> | <b>48.3</b> | <b>98.4</b>  | <b>22.7</b>  | <b>1.0</b> | <b>122.1</b> |
| <b>NT</b>               | Alice Springs                | 110                    | 56             | <b>166</b>     | 201           |              | <b>367</b>            | 112.0       | 57.0        | <b>169.0</b> | 204.7        |            | <b>373.7</b> |
|                         | Barkly                       | 17                     | 2              | <b>19</b>      | 42            |              | <b>61</b>             | 144.1       | 16.9        | <b>161.0</b> | 355.9        |            | <b>516.9</b> |
|                         | Darwin                       | 177                    | 138            | <b>315</b>     | 332           |              | <b>647</b>            | 50.9        | 39.7        | <b>90.6</b>  | 95.5         |            | <b>186.0</b> |
|                         | East Arnhem                  | 5                      | 6              | <b>11</b>      | 72            |              | <b>83</b>             | 32.1        | 38.5        | <b>70.5</b>  | 461.5        |            | <b>532.1</b> |
|                         | Katherine                    | 27                     | 41             | <b>68</b>      | 78            |              | <b>146</b>            | 65.9        | 100.0       | <b>165.9</b> | 190.2        |            | <b>356.1</b> |
| <b>NT TOTAL</b>         |                              | <b>336</b>             | <b>243</b>     | <b>579</b>     | <b>725</b>    | <b>-</b>     | <b>1,304</b>          | <b>65.3</b> | <b>47.2</b> | <b>112.6</b> | <b>140.9</b> | <b>-</b>   | <b>253.5</b> |
| <b>ACT</b>              | Australian Capital Territory | 1,003                  | 1,392          | <b>2,395</b>   | 606           |              | <b>3,001</b>          | 45.0        | 62.4        | <b>107.4</b> | 27.2         |            | <b>134.6</b> |
| <b>ACT TOTAL</b>        |                              | <b>1,003</b>           | <b>1,392</b>   | <b>2,395</b>   | <b>606</b>    | <b>35</b>    | <b>3,036</b>          | <b>45.0</b> | <b>62.4</b> | <b>107.4</b> | <b>27.2</b>  | <b>1.6</b> | <b>136.2</b> |
| <b>AUSTRALIAN TOTAL</b> |                              | <b>91,726</b>          | <b>100,636</b> | <b>192,362</b> | <b>42,476</b> | <b>1,924</b> | <b>236,762</b>        | <b>47.4</b> | <b>52.0</b> | <b>99.3</b>  | <b>21.9</b>  | <b>1.0</b> | <b>122.3</b> |

## Total Allocated Places by Service Type

as at 31 December 2006

### Mainstream Allocated Places

Residential and Community Care places under the *Aged Care Act 1997*

| State/Territory  | High Care     | Low Care      | Total Residential | Community Care | TOTAL          |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| NSW              | 32,297        | 33,661        | 65,958            | 12,583         | 78,541         |
| VIC              | 22,846        | 26,436        | 49,282            | 9,547          | 58,829         |
| QLD              | 15,575        | 18,110        | 33,685            | 6,525          | 40,210         |
| SA               | 8,313         | 8,601         | 16,914            | 3,292          | 20,206         |
| WA               | 7,383         | 8,696         | 16,079            | 3,230          | 19,309         |
| TAS              | 2,486         | 2,414         | 4,900             | 970            | 5,870          |
| NT               | 291           | 189           | 480               | 569            | 1,049          |
| ACT              | 1,003         | 1,392         | 2,395             | 489            | 2,884          |
| <b>Australia</b> | <b>90,194</b> | <b>99,499</b> | <b>189,693</b>    | <b>37,205</b>  | <b>226,898</b> |

### Flexible Allocated Places

#### National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Strategy Allocated Places

Not allocated under the *Aged Care Act 1997*

| State/Territory  | High Care  | Low Care   | Total Residential | Community Care | TOTAL      |
|------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| NSW              | 6          | 15         | 21                | 19             | 40         |
| VIC              | 15         | 10         | 25                | 69             | 94         |
| QLD              | 41         | 32         | 73                | 6              | 79         |
| SA               | 58         | 42         | 100               | 45             | 145        |
| WA               | 6          | 8          | 14                | 2              | 16         |
| TAS              | -          | -          | -                 | 41             | 41         |
| NT               | 45         | 54         | 99                | 66             | 165        |
| ACT              | -          | -          | -                 | -              | -          |
| <b>Australia</b> | <b>171</b> | <b>161</b> | <b>332</b>        | <b>248</b>     | <b>580</b> |

#### Multipurpose (MPS) Allocated Places

Allocated under the *Aged Care Act 1997*

| State/Territory  | High Care    | Low Care   | Total Residential | Community Care | TOTAL        |
|------------------|--------------|------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| NSW              | 518          | 229        | 747               | 74             | 821          |
| VIC              | 180          | 124        | 304               | 14             | 318          |
| QLD              | 183          | 129        | 312               | 104            | 416          |
| SA               | 100          | 125        | 225               | 14             | 239          |
| WA               | 305          | 310        | 615               | 153            | 768          |
| TAS              | 54           | 33         | 87                | 7              | 94           |
| NT               | -            | -          | -                 | -              | -            |
| ACT              | -            | -          | -                 | -              | -            |
| <b>Australia</b> | <b>1,340</b> | <b>950</b> | <b>2,290</b>      | <b>366</b>     | <b>2,656</b> |

## Total Allocated Places by Service Type

as at 31 December 2006

| <b>Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH) and<br/>EACH Dementia Allocated Places</b><br><i>Allocated under the Aged Care Act 1997</i> |              |               |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| State/Territory  | EACH         | EACH Dementia |
| NSW  | 1,077        | 450           |
| VIC  | 882          | 331           |
| QLD  | 532          | 231           |
| SA   | 286          | 116           |
| WA   | 299          | 116           |
| TAS  | 90           | 40            |
| NT   | 70           | 20            |
| ACT  | 87           | 30            |
| <b>Australia</b>   | <b>3,323</b> | <b>1,334</b>  |
| EACH places are attributed as Community Care as from June 2004 and EACH Dementia places as from December 2005                    |              |               |

| <b>Transition Care Allocated Places</b><br><i>Allocated under the Aged Care Act 1997</i> |              |
|--|--------------|
| State/Territory  | TOTAL        |
| NSW  | 703          |
| VIC  | 502          |
| QLD  | 351          |
| SA   | 121          |
| WA   | 160          |
| TAS  | 52           |
| NT   | -            |
| ACT  | 35           |
| <b>Australia</b>   | <b>1,924</b> |

| <b>Innovative Care (IC) Allocated Places</b><br><i>Allocated to WA only under the Aged Care Act 1997</i> |           |           |                   |                |           |
|--|-----------|-----------|-------------------|----------------|-----------|
| State/Territory  | High Care | Low Care  | Total Residential | Community Care | TOTAL     |
| WA   | 21        | 26        | 47                | -              | 47        |
| <b>Australia</b>   | <b>21</b> | <b>26</b> | <b>47</b>         | <b>-</b>       | <b>47</b> |

### Total Operational Places by State/Territory

as at 31 December 2006

| State / Territory | High Care     | Low Care      | Total Residential | Community Care | Transition Care | TOTAL PLACES   |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| NSW               | 30,174        | 27,483        | <b>57,657</b>     | 13,655         | 457             | <b>71,769</b>  |
| VIC               | 19,958        | 23,327        | <b>43,285</b>     | 10,108         | 349             | <b>53,742</b>  |
| QLD               | 13,718        | 15,899        | <b>29,617</b>     | 6,572          | 133             | <b>36,322</b>  |
| SA                | 8,030         | 8,108         | <b>16,138</b>     | 3,530          | 121             | <b>19,789</b>  |
| WA                | 6,583         | 7,804         | <b>14,387</b>     | 3,518          | 100             | <b>18,005</b>  |
| TAS               | 2,301         | 2,169         | <b>4,470</b>      | 1,091          | 52              | <b>5,613</b>   |
| NT                | 306           | 228           | <b>534</b>        | 695            | -               | <b>1,229</b>   |
| ACT               | 669           | 967           | <b>1,636</b>      | 558            | 35              | <b>2,229</b>   |
| <b>Australia</b>  | <b>81,739</b> | <b>85,985</b> | <b>167,724</b>    | <b>39,727</b>  | <b>1,247</b>    | <b>208,698</b> |

### Total Operational Ratio by State/Territory

as at 31 December 2006

| State / Territory | High Care   | Low Care    | Total Residential | Community Care | Transition Care | TOTAL PLACES |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| NSW               | 44.8        | 40.8        | <b>85.6</b>       | 20.3           | 0.7             | <b>106.5</b> |
| VIC               | 40.2        | 46.9        | <b>87.1</b>       | 20.3           | 0.7             | <b>108.2</b> |
| QLD               | 39.8        | 46.2        | <b>86.0</b>       | 19.1           | 0.4             | <b>105.5</b> |
| SA                | 46.1        | 46.5        | <b>92.6</b>       | 20.3           | 0.7             | <b>113.6</b> |
| WA                | 38.9        | 46.1        | <b>85.1</b>       | 20.8           | 0.6             | <b>106.4</b> |
| TAS               | 45.4        | 42.8        | <b>88.2</b>       | 21.5           | 1.0             | <b>110.7</b> |
| NT                | 59.5        | 44.3        | <b>103.8</b>      | 135.1          | -               | <b>238.9</b> |
| ACT               | 30.0        | 43.4        | <b>73.4</b>       | 25.0           | 1.6             | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>Australia</b>  | <b>42.2</b> | <b>44.4</b> | <b>86.6</b>       | <b>20.5</b>    | <b>0.6</b>      | <b>107.8</b> |

**Notes:**

Tables include flexible care places: Transition Care (TC), Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH) and EACH Dementia, Multi-Purpose Services (MPS), permanently allocated Innovative Care (IC) places and places under the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Strategy (ATSI).

MPS, IC and ATSI flexible care places are notionally allocated as high care, low care and community aged care packages.

Community care includes Community Aged Care Packages (CACAP), EACH and EACH Dementia places

| As at 31 December 2006 |                           | Total Operational Places |               |               |                |                 | Total Operational Ratio |             |             |              |                |                 |              |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| State / Territory      | Aged Care Planning Region | HIGH                     | LOW           | RESI          | Community Care | Transition Care | TOTAL PLACES            | HIGH        | LOW         | RESI         | Community Care | Transition Care | TOTAL PLACES |
| <b>NSW</b>             | Central Coast             | 1,578                    | 1,693         | <b>3,271</b>  | 944            |                 | <b>4,215</b>            | 37.6        | 40.4        | <b>78.0</b>  | 22.5           |                 | <b>100.5</b> |
|                        | Central West              | 785                      | 899           | <b>1,684</b>  | 341            |                 | <b>2,025</b>            | 43.4        | 49.7        | <b>93.1</b>  | 18.8           |                 | <b>111.9</b> |
|                        | Far North Coast           | 1,342                    | 1,665         | <b>3,007</b>  | 739            |                 | <b>3,746</b>            | 36.6        | 45.4        | <b>82.0</b>  | 20.1           |                 | <b>102.1</b> |
|                        | Hunter                    | 2,521                    | 2,668         | <b>5,189</b>  | 1,230          |                 | <b>6,419</b>            | 40.0        | 42.4        | <b>82.4</b>  | 19.5           |                 | <b>101.9</b> |
|                        | Illawarra                 | 1,449                    | 1,535         | <b>2,984</b>  | 1,017          |                 | <b>4,001</b>            | 33.5        | 35.5        | <b>68.9</b>  | 23.5           |                 | <b>92.4</b>  |
|                        | Inner West                | 3,126                    | 1,451         | <b>4,577</b>  | 799            |                 | <b>5,376</b>            | 75.2        | 34.9        | <b>110.1</b> | 19.2           |                 | <b>129.4</b> |
|                        | Mid North Coast           | 1,352                    | 1,758         | <b>3,110</b>  | 894            |                 | <b>4,004</b>            | 32.7        | 42.5        | <b>75.2</b>  | 21.6           |                 | <b>96.9</b>  |
|                        | Nepean                    | 1,243                    | 714           | <b>1,957</b>  | 435            |                 | <b>2,392</b>            | 59.4        | 34.1        | <b>93.6</b>  | 20.8           |                 | <b>114.4</b> |
|                        | New England               | 743                      | 856           | <b>1,599</b>  | 398            |                 | <b>1,997</b>            | 39.6        | 45.6        | <b>85.2</b>  | 21.2           |                 | <b>106.4</b> |
|                        | Northern Sydney           | 4,584                    | 4,056         | <b>8,640</b>  | 1,566          |                 | <b>10,206</b>           | 54.9        | 48.6        | <b>103.4</b> | 18.7           |                 | <b>122.2</b> |
|                        | Orana Far West            | 572                      | 837           | <b>1,409</b>  | 384            |                 | <b>1,793</b>            | 37.0        | 54.1        | <b>91.1</b>  | 24.8           |                 | <b>115.9</b> |
|                        | Riverina/Murray           | 1,053                    | 1,328         | <b>2,381</b>  | 556            |                 | <b>2,937</b>            | 37.2        | 46.9        | <b>84.1</b>  | 19.6           |                 | <b>103.7</b> |
|                        | South East Sydney         | 3,587                    | 2,843         | <b>6,430</b>  | 1,675          |                 | <b>8,105</b>            | 42.9        | 34.0        | <b>76.9</b>  | 20.0           |                 | <b>97.0</b>  |
|                        | South West Sydney         | 2,718                    | 2,314         | <b>5,032</b>  | 1,225          |                 | <b>6,257</b>            | 44.1        | 37.5        | <b>81.6</b>  | 19.9           |                 | <b>101.5</b> |
|                        | Southern Highlands        | 710                      | 1,084         | <b>1,794</b>  | 450            |                 | <b>2,244</b>            | 31.4        | 47.9        | <b>79.3</b>  | 19.9           |                 | <b>99.1</b>  |
| Western Sydney         | 2,811                     | 1,782                    | <b>4,593</b>  | 1,002         |                | <b>5,595</b>    | 53.0                    | 33.6        | <b>86.5</b> | 18.9         |                | <b>105.4</b>    |              |
| <b>NSW TOTAL</b>       |                           | <b>30,174</b>            | <b>27,483</b> | <b>57,657</b> | <b>13,655</b>  | <b>457</b>      | <b>71,769</b>           | <b>44.8</b> | <b>40.8</b> | <b>85.6</b>  | <b>20.3</b>    | <b>0.7</b>      | <b>106.5</b> |
| <b>VIC</b>             | Barwon-South Western      | 1,646                    | 2,083         | <b>3,729</b>  | 859            |                 | <b>4,588</b>            | 39.9        | 50.5        | <b>90.4</b>  | 20.8           |                 | <b>111.2</b> |
|                        | Eastern Metro             | 3,775                    | 4,854         | <b>8,629</b>  | 1,946          |                 | <b>10,575</b>           | 37.9        | 48.8        | <b>86.7</b>  | 19.6           |                 | <b>106.3</b> |
|                        | Gippsland                 | 1,027                    | 1,366         | <b>2,393</b>  | 598            |                 | <b>2,991</b>            | 35.8        | 47.6        | <b>83.4</b>  | 20.8           |                 | <b>104.3</b> |
|                        | Grampians                 | 938                      | 1,118         | <b>2,056</b>  | 487            |                 | <b>2,543</b>            | 40.0        | 47.7        | <b>87.7</b>  | 20.8           |                 | <b>108.5</b> |
|                        | Hume                      | 1,145                    | 1,417         | <b>2,562</b>  | 580            |                 | <b>3,142</b>            | 41.8        | 51.7        | <b>93.5</b>  | 21.2           |                 | <b>114.7</b> |
|                        | Loddon-Mallee             | 1,328                    | 1,685         | <b>3,013</b>  | 687            |                 | <b>3,700</b>            | 39.3        | 49.8        | <b>89.1</b>  | 20.3           |                 | <b>109.4</b> |
|                        | Northern Metro            | 2,979                    | 2,992         | <b>5,971</b>  | 1,518          |                 | <b>7,489</b>            | 42.1        | 42.3        | <b>84.4</b>  | 21.4           |                 | <b>105.8</b> |
|                        | Southern Metro            | 5,054                    | 5,413         | <b>10,467</b> | 2,360          |                 | <b>12,827</b>           | 42.1        | 45.1        | <b>87.1</b>  | 19.6           |                 | <b>106.8</b> |
|                        | Western Metro             | 2,066                    | 2,399         | <b>4,465</b>  | 1,073          |                 | <b>5,538</b>            | 39.8        | 46.2        | <b>86.1</b>  | 20.7           |                 | <b>106.7</b> |
| <b>VIC TOTAL</b>       |                           | <b>19,958</b>            | <b>23,327</b> | <b>43,285</b> | <b>10,108</b>  | <b>349</b>      | <b>53,742</b>           | <b>40.2</b> | <b>46.9</b> | <b>87.1</b>  | <b>20.3</b>    | <b>0.7</b>      | <b>108.2</b> |

| As at 31 December 2006 |                               | Total Operational Places |               |               |              |            | Total Operational Ratio |             |             |              |             |            |              |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| <b>QLD</b>             | Brisbane North                | 2,040                    | 1,979         | <b>4,019</b>  | 720          |            | <b>4,739</b>            | 49.5        | 48.0        | <b>97.6</b>  | 17.5        |            | <b>115.0</b> |
|                        | Brisbane South                | 2,424                    | 2,560         | <b>4,984</b>  | 1,043        |            | <b>6,027</b>            | 43.3        | 45.7        | <b>89.1</b>  | 18.6        |            | <b>107.7</b> |
|                        | Cabool                        | 997                      | 1,170         | <b>2,167</b>  | 468          |            | <b>2,635</b>            | 37.7        | 44.3        | <b>82.0</b>  | 17.7        |            | <b>99.7</b>  |
|                        | Central West                  | 68                       | 54            | <b>122</b>    | 64           |            | <b>186</b>              | 69.2        | 55.0        | <b>124.2</b> | 65.2        |            | <b>189.4</b> |
|                        | Darling Downs                 | 992                      | 1,116         | <b>2,108</b>  | 407          |            | <b>2,515</b>            | 43.8        | 49.3        | <b>93.0</b>  | 18.0        |            | <b>111.0</b> |
|                        | Far North                     | 613                      | 808           | <b>1,421</b>  | 413          |            | <b>1,834</b>            | 36.4        | 48.0        | <b>84.4</b>  | 24.5        |            | <b>109.0</b> |
|                        | Fitzroy                       | 633                      | 776           | <b>1,409</b>  | 314          |            | <b>1,723</b>            | 42.2        | 51.7        | <b>93.9</b>  | 20.9        |            | <b>114.9</b> |
|                        | Logan River Valley            | 451                      | 621           | <b>1,072</b>  | 272          |            | <b>1,344</b>            | 29.4        | 40.4        | <b>69.8</b>  | 17.7        |            | <b>87.5</b>  |
|                        | Mackay                        | 350                      | 403           | <b>753</b>    | 181          |            | <b>934</b>              | 38.6        | 44.5        | <b>83.1</b>  | 20.0        |            | <b>103.0</b> |
|                        | North West                    | 46                       | 78            | <b>124</b>    | 94           |            | <b>218</b>              | 29.5        | 50.0        | <b>79.5</b>  | 60.3        |            | <b>139.7</b> |
|                        | Northern                      | 747                      | 779           | <b>1,526</b>  | 303          |            | <b>1,829</b>            | 47.3        | 49.4        | <b>96.7</b>  | 19.2        |            | <b>115.9</b> |
|                        | South Coast                   | 1,596                    | 1,973         | <b>3,569</b>  | 817          |            | <b>4,386</b>            | 35.3        | 43.6        | <b>78.8</b>  | 18.0        |            | <b>96.9</b>  |
|                        | South West                    | 72                       | 151           | <b>223</b>    | 97           |            | <b>320</b>              | 35.2        | 73.7        | <b>108.9</b> | 47.4        |            | <b>156.3</b> |
|                        | Sunshine Coast                | 1,297                    | 1,673         | <b>2,970</b>  | 671          |            | <b>3,641</b>            | 34.3        | 44.2        | <b>78.5</b>  | 17.7        |            | <b>96.3</b>  |
|                        | West Moreton                  | 491                      | 675           | <b>1,166</b>  | 223          |            | <b>1,389</b>            | 37.7        | 51.9        | <b>89.6</b>  | 17.1        |            | <b>106.7</b> |
|                        | Wide Bay                      | 901                      | 1,083         | <b>1,984</b>  | 485          |            | <b>2,469</b>            | 35.4        | 42.6        | <b>78.0</b>  | 19.1        |            | <b>97.1</b>  |
| <b>QLD TOTAL</b>       |                               | <b>13,718</b>            | <b>15,899</b> | <b>29,617</b> | <b>6,572</b> | <b>133</b> | <b>36,322</b>           | <b>39.8</b> | <b>46.2</b> | <b>86.0</b>  | <b>19.1</b> | <b>0.4</b> | <b>105.5</b> |
| <b>SA</b>              | Eyre Peninsula                | 129                      | 182           | <b>311</b>    | 83           |            | <b>394</b>              | 36.3        | 51.3        | <b>87.6</b>  | 23.4        |            | <b>111.0</b> |
|                        | Hills, Mallee & Southern      | 508                      | 554           | <b>1,062</b>  | 310          |            | <b>1,372</b>            | 39.1        | 42.6        | <b>81.6</b>  | 23.8        |            | <b>105.5</b> |
|                        | Metropolitan East             | 2,237                    | 1,876         | <b>4,113</b>  | 563          |            | <b>4,676</b>            | 63.4        | 53.2        | <b>116.6</b> | 16.0        |            | <b>132.6</b> |
|                        | Metropolitan North            | 1,338                    | 1,021         | <b>2,359</b>  | 412          |            | <b>2,771</b>            | 52.7        | 40.2        | <b>93.0</b>  | 16.2        |            | <b>109.2</b> |
|                        | Metropolitan South            | 1,620                    | 1,643         | <b>3,263</b>  | 814          |            | <b>4,077</b>            | 41.4        | 42.0        | <b>83.3</b>  | 20.8        |            | <b>104.1</b> |
|                        | Metropolitan West             | 1,254                    | 1,242         | <b>2,496</b>  | 616          |            | <b>3,112</b>            | 43.0        | 42.6        | <b>85.5</b>  | 21.1        |            | <b>106.6</b> |
|                        | Mid North                     | 69                       | 220           | <b>289</b>    | 87           |            | <b>376</b>              | 19.3        | 61.6        | <b>80.9</b>  | 24.4        |            | <b>105.3</b> |
|                        | Riverland                     | 146                      | 238           | <b>384</b>    | 118          |            | <b>502</b>              | 31.6        | 51.6        | <b>83.2</b>  | 25.6        |            | <b>108.8</b> |
|                        | South East                    | 189                      | 358           | <b>547</b>    | 138          |            | <b>685</b>              | 30.0        | 56.8        | <b>86.7</b>  | 21.9        |            | <b>108.6</b> |
|                        | Whyalla, Flinders & Far North | 137                      | 191           | <b>328</b>    | 153          |            | <b>481</b>              | 35.0        | 48.9        | <b>83.9</b>  | 39.1        |            | <b>123.0</b> |
|                        | Yorke, Lower North & Barossa  | 403                      | 583           | <b>986</b>    | 236          |            | <b>1,222</b>            | 39.3        | 56.8        | <b>96.1</b>  | 23.0        |            | <b>119.1</b> |
| <b>SA TOTAL</b>        |                               | <b>8,030</b>             | <b>8,108</b>  | <b>16,138</b> | <b>3,530</b> | <b>121</b> | <b>19,789</b>           | <b>46.1</b> | <b>46.5</b> | <b>92.6</b>  | <b>20.3</b> | <b>0.7</b> | <b>113.6</b> |

| As at 31 December 2006  |                              | Total Operational Places |               |                |               |              |                | Total Operational Ratio |             |              |              |            |              |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| <b>WA</b>               | Goldfields                   | 132                      | 135           | <b>267</b>     | 71            |              | <b>338</b>     | 51.3                    | 52.5        | <b>103.8</b> | 27.6         |            | <b>131.4</b> |
|                         | Great Southern               | 293                      | 372           | <b>665</b>     | 165           |              | <b>830</b>     | 40.2                    | 51.0        | <b>91.2</b>  | 22.6         |            | <b>113.9</b> |
|                         | Kimberley                    | 48                       | 82            | <b>130</b>     | 60            |              | <b>190</b>     | 41.7                    | 71.2        | <b>112.9</b> | 52.1         |            | <b>165.1</b> |
|                         | Metropolitan East            | 1,167                    | 1,302         | <b>2,469</b>   | 475           |              | <b>2,944</b>   | 45.5                    | 50.7        | <b>96.2</b>  | 18.5         |            | <b>114.7</b> |
|                         | Metropolitan North           | 1,438                    | 1,934         | <b>3,372</b>   | 898           |              | <b>4,270</b>   | 33.0                    | 44.4        | <b>77.5</b>  | 20.6         |            | <b>98.1</b>  |
|                         | Metropolitan South East      | 1,475                    | 1,374         | <b>2,849</b>   | 566           |              | <b>3,415</b>   | 52.7                    | 49.1        | <b>101.8</b> | 20.2         |            | <b>122.0</b> |
|                         | Metropolitan South West      | 1,257                    | 1,623         | <b>2,880</b>   | 703           |              | <b>3,583</b>   | 32.8                    | 42.3        | <b>75.0</b>  | 18.3         |            | <b>93.4</b>  |
|                         | Mid West                     | 173                      | 192           | <b>365</b>     | 139           |              | <b>504</b>     | 36.2                    | 40.1        | <b>76.3</b>  | 29.1         |            | <b>105.4</b> |
|                         | Pilbara                      | 30                       | 20            | <b>50</b>      | 50            |              | <b>100</b>     | 44.8                    | 29.9        | <b>74.7</b>  | 74.7         |            | <b>149.5</b> |
|                         | South West                   | 409                      | 590           | <b>999</b>     | 263           |              | <b>1,262</b>   | 33.8                    | 48.7        | <b>82.5</b>  | 21.7         |            | <b>104.3</b> |
|                         | Wheatbelt                    | 161                      | 180           | <b>341</b>     | 128           |              | <b>469</b>     | 32.2                    | 36.0        | <b>68.3</b>  | 25.6         |            | <b>93.9</b>  |
| <b>WA TOTAL</b>         |                              | <b>6,583</b>             | <b>7,804</b>  | <b>14,387</b>  | <b>3,518</b>  | <b>100</b>   | <b>18,005</b>  | <b>38.9</b>             | <b>46.1</b> | <b>85.1</b>  | <b>20.8</b>  | <b>0.6</b> | <b>106.4</b> |
| <b>TAS</b>              | North Western                | 490                      | 460           | <b>950</b>     | 227           |              | <b>1,177</b>   | 42.0                    | 39.5        | <b>81.5</b>  | 19.5         |            | <b>100.9</b> |
|                         | Northern                     | 723                      | 573           | <b>1,296</b>   | 341           |              | <b>1,637</b>   | 49.5                    | 39.2        | <b>88.7</b>  | 23.3         |            | <b>112.0</b> |
|                         | Southern                     | 1,088                    | 1,136         | <b>2,224</b>   | 523           |              | <b>2,747</b>   | 44.6                    | 46.5        | <b>91.1</b>  | 21.4         |            | <b>112.6</b> |
| <b>TAS TOTAL</b>        |                              | <b>2,301</b>             | <b>2,169</b>  | <b>4,470</b>   | <b>1,091</b>  | <b>52</b>    | <b>5,613</b>   | <b>45.4</b>             | <b>42.8</b> | <b>88.2</b>  | <b>21.5</b>  | <b>1.0</b> | <b>110.7</b> |
| <b>NT</b>               | Alice Springs                | 100                      | 56            | <b>156</b>     | 196           |              | <b>352</b>     | 101.8                   | 57.0        | <b>158.9</b> | 199.6        |            | <b>358.5</b> |
|                         | Barkly                       | 17                       | 2             | <b>19</b>      | 42            |              | <b>61</b>      | 144.1                   | 16.9        | <b>161.0</b> | 355.9        |            | <b>516.9</b> |
|                         | Darwin                       | 157                      | 123           | <b>280</b>     | 307           |              | <b>587</b>     | 45.1                    | 35.4        | <b>80.5</b>  | 88.3         |            | <b>168.8</b> |
|                         | East Arnhem                  | 5                        | 6             | <b>11</b>      | 72            |              | <b>83</b>      | 32.1                    | 38.5        | <b>70.5</b>  | 461.5        |            | <b>532.1</b> |
|                         | Katherine                    | 27                       | 41            | <b>68</b>      | 78            |              | <b>146</b>     | 65.9                    | 100.0       | <b>165.9</b> | 190.2        |            | <b>356.1</b> |
| <b>NT TOTAL</b>         |                              | <b>306</b>               | <b>228</b>    | <b>534</b>     | <b>695</b>    | <b>-</b>     | <b>1,229</b>   | <b>59.5</b>             | <b>44.3</b> | <b>103.8</b> | <b>135.1</b> | <b>-</b>   | <b>238.9</b> |
| <b>ACT</b>              | Australian Capital Territory | 669                      | 967           | <b>1,636</b>   | 558           |              | <b>2,194</b>   | 30.0                    | 43.4        | <b>73.4</b>  | 25.0         |            | <b>98.4</b>  |
| <b>ACT TOTAL</b>        |                              | <b>669</b>               | <b>967</b>    | <b>1,636</b>   | <b>558</b>    | <b>35</b>    | <b>2,229</b>   | <b>30.0</b>             | <b>43.4</b> | <b>73.4</b>  | <b>25.0</b>  | <b>1.6</b> | <b>100.0</b> |
| <b>AUSTRALIAN TOTAL</b> |                              | <b>81,764</b>            | <b>85,985</b> | <b>167,749</b> | <b>39,727</b> | <b>1,247</b> | <b>208,723</b> | <b>42.2</b>             | <b>44.4</b> | <b>86.6</b>  | <b>20.5</b>  | <b>0.6</b> | <b>107.8</b> |

## Total Operational Places by Service Type

as at 31 December 2006

### Mainstream Operational Places

Residential and Community Care places under the *Aged Care Act 1997*

| State/<br>Territory | High Care     | Low Care      | Total<br>Residential | Community<br>Care | TOTAL          |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| NSW                 | 29,775        | 27,276        | 57,051               | 12,461            | 69,512         |
| VIC                 | 19,763        | 23,193        | 42,956               | 9,122             | 52,078         |
| QLD                 | 13,528        | 15,750        | 29,278               | 5,912             | 35,190         |
| SA                  | 7,872         | 7,941         | 15,813               | 3,172             | 18,985         |
| WA                  | 6,256         | 7,471         | 13,727               | 3,055             | 16,782         |
| TAS                 | 2,247         | 2,136         | 4,383                | 948               | 5,331          |
| NT                  | 261           | 174           | 435                  | 559               | 994            |
| ACT                 | 669           | 967           | 1,636                | 474               | 2,110          |
| <b>Australia</b>    | <b>80,371</b> | <b>84,908</b> | <b>165,279</b>       | <b>35,703</b>     | <b>200,982</b> |

### Flexible Operational Places

#### National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Strategy Operational Places

Not allocated under the *Aged Care Act 1997*

| State/<br>Territory | High Care  | Low Care   | Total<br>Residential | Community<br>Care | TOTAL      |
|---------------------|------------|------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------|
| NSW                 | 6          | 15         | 21                   | 19                | 40         |
| VIC                 | 15         | 10         | 25                   | 69                | 94         |
| QLD                 | 41         | 32         | 73                   | 6                 | 79         |
| SA                  | 58         | 42         | 100                  | 45                | 145        |
| WA                  | 6          | 8          | 14                   | 2                 | 16         |
| TAS                 | -          | -          | -                    | 41                | 41         |
| NT                  | 45         | 54         | 99                   | 66                | 165        |
| ACT                 | -          | -          | -                    | -                 | -          |
| <b>Australia</b>    | <b>171</b> | <b>161</b> | <b>332</b>           | <b>248</b>        | <b>580</b> |

#### Multipurpose (MPS) Operational Places

Allocated under the *Aged Care Act 1997*

| State/<br>Territory | High Care    | Low Care   | Total<br>Residential | Community<br>Care | TOTAL        |
|---------------------|--------------|------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| NSW                 | 393          | 192        | 585                  | 69                | 654          |
| VIC                 | 180          | 124        | 304                  | 14                | 318          |
| QLD                 | 149          | 117        | 266                  | 92                | 358          |
| SA                  | 100          | 125        | 225                  | 14                | 239          |
| WA                  | 305          | 310        | 615                  | 153               | 768          |
| TAS                 | 54           | 33         | 87                   | 7                 | 94           |
| NT                  | -            | -          | -                    | -                 | -            |
| ACT                 | -            | -          | -                    | -                 | -            |
| <b>Australia</b>    | <b>1,181</b> | <b>901</b> | <b>2,082</b>         | <b>349</b>        | <b>2,431</b> |



## Total Operational Places by Service Type

as at 31 December 2006

| <b>Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH) and<br/>EACH Dementia Operational Places</b><br><i>Allocated under the Aged Care Act 1997</i> |              |               |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| State/Territory  | EACH         | EACH Dementia |
| NSW  | 891          | 215           |
| VIC  | 737          | 166           |
| QLD  | 447          | 115           |
| SA   | 241          | 58            |
| WA   | 250          | 58            |
| TAS  | 75           | 20            |
| NT   | 60           | 10            |
| ACT  | 69           | 15            |
| <b>Australia</b>   | <b>2,770</b> | <b>657</b>    |

EACH places are attributed as Community Care as from June 200 and EACH Dementia places as from December 2005

| <b>Transition Care (TC) Operational Places</b><br><i>Allocated under the Aged Care Act 1997</i> |              |
|---|--------------|
| State/Territory   | TOTAL        |
| NSW   | 457          |
| VIC   | 349          |
| QLD   | 133          |
| SA  | 121          |
| WA  | 100          |
| TAS   | 52           |
| NT  | -            |
| ACT   | 35           |
| <b>Australia</b>  | <b>1,247</b> |

| <b>Innovative Care Allocated Places</b><br><i>Allocated to Western Australia Only under the Aged Care Act 1997</i> |           |           |                   |                |           |
|--|-----------|-----------|-------------------|----------------|-----------|
| State/Territory  | High Care | Low Care  | Total Residential | Community Care | TOTAL     |
| WA   | 16        | 15        | 31                | -              | 31        |
| <b>Australia</b>   | <b>16</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>31</b>         | <b>-</b>       | <b>31</b> |

## Offline Places by State/Territory

as at 31 December 2006

| State /<br>Territory   | High Care    | Low Care     | Total<br>Residential | Community<br>Care | Transition<br>Care | TOTAL<br>PLACES | % of Total    |
|--|--------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <b>NSW</b>   | 566          | 421          | <b>987</b>           | -                 | -                  | <b>987</b>      | <b>35.5%</b>  |
| <b>VIC</b>   | 549          | 489          | <b>1,038</b>         | -                 | -                  | <b>1,038</b>    | <b>37.3%</b>  |
| <b>QLD</b>   | 224          | 88           | <b>312</b>           | 7                 | -                  | <b>319</b>      | <b>11.5%</b>  |
| <b>SA</b>  | 61           | 6            | <b>67</b>            | -                 | -                  | <b>67</b>       | <b>2.4%</b>   |
| <b>WA</b>  | 195          | 168          | <b>363</b>           | -                 | -                  | <b>363</b>      | <b>13.0%</b>  |
| <b>TAS</b>   | -            | -            | -                    | -                 | -                  | -               | <b>0.0%</b>   |
| <b>NT</b>  | -            | -            | -                    | -                 | -                  | -               | <b>0.0%</b>   |
| <b>ACT</b>   | -            | 10           | <b>10</b>            | -                 | -                  | <b>10</b>       | <b>0.4%</b>   |
| <b>Australia</b>   | <b>1,595</b> | <b>1,182</b> | <b>2,777</b>         | <b>7</b>          | -                  | <b>2,784</b>    | <b>100.0%</b> |
| <p><b>Note:</b> Table includes flexible care places: Transition Care (TC), Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH) and EACH Dementia, Multi-Purpose Services (MPS), permanently allocated Innovative Care (IC) places and places under the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Strategy (ATSI). EACH and EACH Dementia places are notionally allocated as community care while MPS, IC and ATSI flexible care places are notionally allocated as high care, low care and community care packages.</p> |              |              |                      |                   |                    |                 |               |

*ODA Expenditure by Department of Health and Ageing 2000-01 to 2005-06*

| <b>Country/Region</b>       | <b>2000-01</b>   | <b>2001-02</b>    | <b>2002-03</b>   | <b>2003-04</b>    | <b>2004-05</b>   | <b>2005-06*</b>   |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Bangladesh                  | 4,548            |                   |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| Bhutan                      |                  |                   |                  |                   | 6,503            |                   |
| Burma                       | 4,548            |                   |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| China                       | 52,944           | 86,398            |                  | 194,533           | 389,064          | 389,064           |
| East Asia                   |                  |                   |                  | 80,734            | 239,254          | 370,665           |
| Fiji                        |                  |                   |                  | 40,014            | 86,668           | 100,872           |
| India                       | 4,548            |                   |                  |                   |                  | 200,000           |
| Indonesia                   | 9,912            | 83,782            | 6,372            | 31,919            | 5,078            |                   |
| Malaysia                    | 4,548            | 20,813            |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| Mongolia                    |                  |                   |                  |                   | 8,741            |                   |
| Pacific Islands             | 816              |                   |                  |                   |                  | 17,515            |
| Pakistan                    | 4,548            |                   |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| Papua New Guinea            | 10,080           | 20,230            |                  | 283,180           | 573,330          | 742,860           |
| Philippines                 | 4,548            |                   |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| South Africa                | 3,162            |                   |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| Sri Lanka                   | 4,548            |                   |                  | 73,873            | 155,559          | 73,873            |
| Sub-saharan Africa          | 2,280            |                   |                  |                   |                  |                   |
| Thailand                    | 80,488           | 60,989            | 80,691           | 201,920           | 335,384          | 403,840           |
| Tonga                       |                  |                   |                  | 40,014            | 80,028           | 80,028            |
| Vietnam                     | 7,705            |                   |                  |                   | 8,981            |                   |
| International Organisations | 9,068,060        | 9,829,292         | 8,585,831        | 10,286,688        | 7,056,160        | 7,662,548         |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>9,267,283</b> | <b>10,101,504</b> | <b>8,672,894</b> | <b>11,232,875</b> | <b>8,944,750</b> | <b>10,041,265</b> |

\* Expected outcomes

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 14 February 2007

Question: E07-086

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: AGED CARE APPROVALS ROUND 2006/07

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

What weight is given to an aged care development proposal where the licences will be operating, if the applicant does not own the land?

Answer:

It is not possible to quantify the actual weighting that is given to any single element of a complex and detailed application. The decision to allocate places to a particular applicant will have regard to the totality of the application, including any supporting documentation.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-087

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: AGED CARE APPROVALS ROUND 2006/07

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

What information does the Department require about council “zoning” of land that is used as the site for the application for bed licences?

Answer:

All applicants who have acquired or identified land or buildings associated with their application for places are required to provide evidence of the action they have taken to acquire or identify the land or buildings. This evidence may include, but is not limited to, relevant documents such as a development application, evidence of pre-lodgement meetings with Council, current zoning information, and copies of title, contract, signed lease or option.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 14 February 2007

Question: E07-088

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: AGED CARE APPROVALS ROUND 2006/07

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

Does the Department ensure that land is “zoned” suitable for its intended use when allocating bed licences, relative to other criteria identified in Estimates?

Answer:

The decision to allocate places to a particular applicant will have regard to all of the information provided throughout the application, including any documentation that supports or provides evidence of meeting the stages in the development process, including the relevant zoning requirements.

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-089

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: AGED CARE APPROVALS ROUND 2006/07

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

In the Government's 2006 Essential Guide – the guide to assist aged care providers apply for aged care places – it states:

The four key issues for the 2006 Aged Care Approvals Round are:

- Improving access to aged care services for people with special needs;
- Making places operational in a timely manner ('bed readiness');
- Provision of care for people (living) with dementia; and
- Provision of residential respite care.

What weighting was given to these particular "four key issues" in deciding the allocation of bed licences?

Answer:

A common framework is used to assess and rank all applications. This framework follows the provisions of the *Aged Care Act 1997* (the Act), and the Aged Care Principles.

The legislative provisions identify a range of important matters used in the assessment process.

In addition, each year a number of key issues may be identified as having a particular focus in the Aged Care Approvals Round (the Round). Each of these key issues is also linked to one or more of the legislatively based assessment criteria. The key issues are a subset of the assessment criteria and each of these elements is assessed on a competitive basis; the full list of criteria used in the assessment process are detailed in the Essential Guide at [www.health.gov.au/acar2006](http://www.health.gov.au/acar2006)

Prospective applicants are advised, in the Essential Guide, that there is no guarantee of success in the Round simply because one of the legislative provisions or one of the key issues, is well addressed. All applicants are required to address all of the relevant assessment criteria and in a highly competitive process, the decision to allocate places to a particular applicant will have regard to the totality of the application (including any supporting documentation).

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-093

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: SPOT CHECKS

Senator McLucas asked:

How many unannounced support contacts and unannounced review audits “spot checks” have been undertaken from September 2006 by month to date.

Answer

|                              | Sep 06 | Oct 06 | Nov 06 | Dec 06 | Jan 07 |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Unannounced support contacts | 153    | 376    | 464    | 326    | 456    |
| Unannounced review audits    | 4      | 7      | 7      | 2      | 2      |



Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-081

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: COMMONWEALTH CARELINK CENTRES

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

Can the Department provide the breakdown of Total Clients Contacts by Type of Contact from July 2005 to 30 June 2006 and to date in the same form as outlined to Question on Notice answer 145?

Answer:

**Breakdown of Total Client Contacts by Type of Contact from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006**

| Type of contact | No. of Contacts |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Email/fax       | 4,604           |
| Mail            | 738             |
| Other (1)       | 20,954          |
| Phone (2)       | 133,233         |
| Walk in         | 24,833          |
| Total           | 184,362         |

Note: (1) "Other" includes: group presentations, trade shows, on-site visits, etc.  
(2) Includes phone calls from free phones in remote localities which are not separately recorded by the department.

**Breakdown of Total Client Contacts by Type of Contact from 1 July 2006 to 31 January 2007 (Note that this is a part-year only)**

| Type of contact | No. of Contacts |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Email/fax       | 4,704           |
| Mail            | 783             |
| Other (1)       | 14,384          |
| Phone (2)       | 87,568          |
| Walk in         | 12,453          |
| Total           | 119,892         |

- Note: (1) "Other" includes: group presentations, trade shows, on-site visits, etc.  
(2) Includes phone calls from free phones in remote localities which are not separately recorded by the department.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-082

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: PEOPLE ASSESSED AS REQUIRING AGED CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

Does the Department collect information on the numbers of people assessed as requiring aged care (ACAT assessment) who remain in state, territory or private hospitals? If so, please provide the current data by state and territory.

Answer:

No data is routinely collected on people remaining in hospital following an ACAT assessment and approval to receive aged care.

Through the then Care of Older Australians Working Group established under the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council, a survey was undertaken of all people aged 65 or over in public hospitals on the night of 17 April 2002. This included data on the numbers of people assessed as eligible for aged care who were in hospital at that time. A follow up survey was undertaken on 8 May 2002 to determine who remained in hospital, and for what reason. A copy of the report on the findings of this work published by the Australian Health Ministers' Conference is available on the Department's website at:

[http://www.health.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/health-minconf.htm/\\$FILE/pr2report.pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/health-minconf.htm/$FILE/pr2report.pdf)

A further survey of older Australians in hospitals was conducted in the second half of 2006. A report on this work is not yet finalised.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-083

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: PEOPLE ASSESSED AS REQUIRING AGED CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

What is the average length of stay in hospital prior to admission to residential aged care?

Answer:

During the last four years for which information is available, the average length of stay in hospital prior to discharge to residential aged care was as follows:

| <b>Financial year</b> | <b>Average Length of stay (days)</b> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2001-02               | 22.3                                 |
| 2002-03               | 21.1                                 |
| 2003-04               | 20.8                                 |
| 2004-05               | 18.7                                 |

NOTE: This is the average length of stay for every hospital separation involving a discharge to residential aged care. It includes discharges of people returning to residential care. Note also that some people may enter hospital and be discharged to an aged care home on more than one occasion in a financial year.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-074

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF BED LICENCE APPLICATIONS

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

Is the department intending to investigate other individuals, other than departmental officers, about prior knowledge of Mr Dart's bed licence application? For example Mr Dart, Mr Barresi or the Minister's staff.

Answer:

The department's investigation was conducted to determine whether departmental staff improperly disclosed protected information. The investigation found no evidence that protected information was disclosed by departmental staff to anyone outside of the department, including to the Minister's Office. Consequently, the department does not intend to investigate non-departmental individuals.

The investigation did find that Mr Dart had informed at least six other people of his intentions in relation to an Aged Care Approvals Round (ACAR) application. The disclosure of information by Mr Dart, and by the people he informed, is not an offence.

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-075

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: QUALITY ASSURANCE

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) What quality assurance or accreditation systems were in place in 1997 and earlier for assessing quality outcomes in aged care facilities?
- b) How many aged care facilities are yet to meet the 1997 Certification Standards? Please provide a list of the facilities.
- c) What is being done to assist these facilities to meet the 1997 Certification Standards?
- d) How many of the uncertified facilities are currently accredited by the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency (ACSAA)?
- e) How is it possible for an aged care facility to meet the accreditation standards if it has yet to meet the 1997 Certification Standards?

Answer:

- a) Prior to 1997 there was a Standards Monitoring process in which departmental officers were responsible for monitoring standards in residential aged care homes.
- b) All services currently meet the 1997 Certification Assessment Instrument. However, under the 10 year forward plan agreed between the government and industry, higher fire safety targets were introduced in July 1999. 161 services are yet to meet the 1999 Instrument. A list of all facilities which do and do not meet the 1999 instrument can be found on the Departments website at <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/ageing-certification-certdex.htm>
- c) The 161 services that are yet to meet the 1999 Instrument are being case managed by the relevant State or Territory office of the department.
- d) All Australian Government subsidised residential aged care services are currently certified and accredited by the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency (ACSAA).
- e) All homes meet the 1997 Certification requirements and all have declared they meet state and local government fire laws through the Fire Safety Declaration. In respect to Certification, relevant accreditation outcomes include outcome 4.2 and outcome 4.6 of the standards. These outcomes focus on compliance with relevant legislation, regulatory requirements, professional standards and safe systems of work that minimise fire, security and emergency risks.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-084

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: CANTERBURY MULTICULTURAL AGED AND DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICE

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

In the recent Estimates hearings, the Department stated that they had investigated concerns over funding expenditure and service provision at the Canterbury Multicultural Aged and Disability Support Service. The fraud audit by the Department was completed by May 2006, prior to findings of the NSW Government initiated independent financial report by Walter Turnbull. Will the Department undertake another investigation taking into account the findings by Walter Turnbull?

Answer:

No. The report provides no evidence of offences against the Commonwealth. On page 57 the report states that Walter Turnbull "found insufficient evidence to support allegations of improper practices."

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-085

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: AGED CARE APPROVALS ROUND 2006/07

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

When the Department assessed the application for bed licences from the Superior Care Group was the Department aware that Superior Care Group did not own the land that the licences were being located?

Answer:

Information contained in individual applications is provided on a commercial-in-confidence basis.

All applicants who have acquired or identified land or buildings associated with their application for places are required to provide evidence of the action they have taken to acquire or identify the land or buildings. This evidence may include, but is not limited to, relevant documents such as a development application, evidence of pre-lodgement meetings with Council, current zoning information, and copies of title, contract, signed lease or option.



Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-090

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: COMPLAINTS DIRECT TO AGED CARE STANDARDS AND  
ACCREDITATION AGENCY LTD

Senator McLucas asked:

Answer to Question E06-024 states that the Agency does not collect information about sources of complaints about aged care facilities from residents, residents' family/friends, residential aged care staff and community members. Can you please tell me why the Agency does not collect this data?

*Answer*

As part of its assessment and monitoring process, the Agency considers a range of information including information contained in a complaint, to assess whether a home is complying with its obligations against the Accreditation Standards.

The source of the information is not relevant to the Agency's assessment of the information contained in a complaint.

Information received by the Agency is sometimes anonymous and often does not identify the person or whether they are a resident, a relative, or an employee of a home. Where the complainant can be identified and the complaint appears to be within the remit of the Complaints Resolution Scheme, the person is provided with information about the Scheme.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-091

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: COMPLAINTS TO AGED CARE STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATION  
AGENCY LTD

Senator McLucas asked:

How many complaints about aged care were referred from DHA to the Agency in 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006?

*Answer*

2000: Information not available

2001: Information not available

2002: Information not available

2003: A total of 559 referrals were received from DHA

2004: A total of 966 referrals were received from DHA

2005: A total of 1,158 referrals were received from DHA

2006: A total of 2,083 referrals were received from DHA

A breakdown of the number of referrals that were complaints is not available.

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-092

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: SPOT CHECKS

Senator McLucas asked:

Has the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency Ltd finalised the 12 “assessment modules” for undertaking spot checks and are they now available? If so, can they be provided?

*Answer*

The 12 assessment modules are available on the Agency’s website [www.accreditation.org.au](http://www.accreditation.org.au). The assessment modules are utilised in the conduct of both announced and unannounced support contacts.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-094

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: SPOT CHECKS

Senator McLucas asked:

Where will the findings from “unannounced support contacts” that is “spot checks” be publicly reported?

*Answer*

Information about support contacts is ‘protected information’ under Part 6-2 of Chapter 6 of the *Aged Care Act 1997*.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-095

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: OUT OF HOURS VISITS

Senator McLucas asked:

In answer E06-025, it was noted that the Agency makes out of hours visits to aged care facilities. In the answer, the Agency stated that it does not keep records of “out of hours” visits. As there may be different levels of staffing “out of hours” why does the Agency not keep records of “out of hours visits”?

*Answer*

The number of ‘out of hours’ visits is not relevant to the monitoring of homes’ compliance with the Accreditation Standards. What is relevant is the findings of a home’s compliance, and this is recorded in the support contact record.

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-096

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: STAR OF THE SEA HOSTEL

Senator McLucas asked:

The Star of the Sea Hostel had an accreditation audit from 11-13 April 2006. The facility was found to be non-compliant in Clinical care and Medication management at that time. It was given two years' accreditation till June 2008. The Agency was satisfied that "the home will undertake continuous improvement measured against the Accreditation Standards"

In the same report it states:

Actions following decision

Subsequent to the accreditation decision, the Agency has undertaken support contacts to monitor the home's progress and has found that the home has rectified the earlier identified non-compliance.

- a) On what date was it found that the home had rectified the earlier identified non-compliance?
- b) What type of visit was undertaken at this time, and what was looked at to ensure the issues of non-compliance had been rectified?
- c) For what reason did the Agency visit the facility for the visit that resulted in the sanction? Was it a complaint that resulted in the visit?
- d) What is a "Type 4 Referral Review Audit?"
- e) What were the findings of the Agency when the visit was undertaken that resulted in sanctions? How many expected outcomes was the home non-compliant with and what were they?
- f) Was there any concern around nutrition and hydration?
- g) Were the problems found to be long-standing? If so, how was the facility able to gain accreditation in October 2006?

*Answer*

- a) The Agency conducted a number of support contacts to monitor the home's progress against the areas of non-compliance. Information about support contacts is protected information under Part 6-2 of Chapter 6 of the *Aged Care Act 1997*.
- b) A number of support contacts were conducted during the timetable for improvement period to monitor the home's progress against the areas of non-compliance. Information on support contacts is protected information under Part 6-2 of Chapter 6 of the *Aged Care Act 1997*.
- c) A referral from the Department of Health and Ageing.
- d) A review audit conducted at the request of the Department of Health and Ageing under Section 3.21 (6) of the Accreditation Grant Principles
- e) The assessment team recommended serious risk and the Agency decision maker determined that serious risk was present in expected outcome 4.4 Living environment and 4.6 Fire, security and other emergencies. Following receipt of the assessment team's report and a submission from the home, the Agency decision maker found the home non-compliant in the following 23 expected outcomes:

- 1.1 Continuous Improvement
- 1.2 – Regulatory Compliance
- 1.3 – Education and Staff Development
- 1.4 – Comments and Complaints
- 1.6 – Human Resource Management
- 1.7 – Inventory and Equipment
- 1.8 – Information Systems
- 2.1 – Continuous Improvement
- 2.2 – Regulatory Compliance
- 2.3 – Education and Staff Development
- 2.4 – Clinical Care
- 2.14 – Mobility Dexterity and Rehabilitation
- 3.1 – Continuous Improvement
- 3.2 – Regulatory Compliance
- 3.3 – Education and Staff Development
- 3.6 – Privacy and Dignity
- 3.10 – Resident Security of Tenure
- 4.1 – Continuous Improvement
- 4.2 – Regulatory Compliance
- 4.3 – Education and Staff Development
- 4.4 – Living Environment (serious risk)
- 4.5 – Occupational Health and Safety
- 4.6 – Fire, Security and Other Emergencies (serious risk)

- f) Expected outcome 2.10 Nutrition and hydration was found compliant at the review audit held on 12-15 January 2007. The assessment team reported as follows:

*“Residents receive adequate nourishment and hydration and processes are in place to identify residents’ food and fluid preferences and to assess residents at risk of impaired nutrition. Weight monitoring is undertaken and action is taken to address weight loss with residents being referred for medical and/or dietitian review and management if nutritional deficiencies are identified. Whilst staff monitor and assist residents with meals and drinks in accordance with their needs, staff gave different information about the names of residents who require thickened fluids and nutritional supplements. Action was taken during the review audit to ensure that information was correctly communicated to relevant staff and provided to residents. Residents said that they are happy with the quantity and variety of food and with the assistance provided by staff. Inconsistencies with the monitoring and the recording of the effectiveness of nutritional management strategies were identified.”*

- g) The assessment team did not record a view concerning the length of time the situation they reported had existed. The facility was accredited in April 2006.



Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-097

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: CURIE NURSING HOME

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) In an accreditation audit from 12-15 September 2006, Curie Nursing Home was found to comply with only 18 of the 44 expected outcomes. Prior to this audit, when did Curie Nursing Home have an unannounced support contact and unannounced review audit "spot checks"?
- b) What are the Agency and the department doing to ensure this facility complies with the expected outcomes?

*Answer*

- a) Prior to the review audit conducted in September 2006, the Agency conducted an accreditation site audit in June 2005 and three subsequent support contacts, one of which was unannounced. Information on support contacts is protected information protected information under Part 6-2 of Chapter 6 of the *Aged Care Act 1997*.
- b) The home has returned to full compliance with the Accreditation Standards. The Agency will continue to monitor progress with the home's improvements and the maintenance of compliance with the Accreditation Standards.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-098

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: COMMUNITY AGED CARE PACKAGES

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

Does the Department measure vacancy rates in the Community Aged Care Packages (CACP), Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH) packages and Extended Aged Care at Home - Dementia (EACHD) packages. If so, can you please provide vacancy rates by each Aged Care Planning Region?

Answer:

Average vacancy rates in the first six months of 2006-07 were as follows:

| <b>AGED CARE PLANNING REGION</b> |                             | <b>CACP</b> | <b>EACH</b> | <b>EACH D</b> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| <b>NSW</b>                       | <b>Central Coast</b>        | 2.84%       | 21.47%      | 34.75%        |
|                                  | <b>Central West</b>         | 6.35%       | 40.20%      | N/A           |
|                                  | <b>Far North Coast</b>      | 2.97%       | 8.12%       | 0.00%         |
|                                  | <b>Hunter</b>               | 11.64%      | 28.58%      | 77.22%        |
|                                  | <b>Illawarra</b>            | 6.57%       | 12.56%      | 23.55%        |
|                                  | <b>Inner West</b>           | 4.48%       | 0.53%       | 26.74%        |
|                                  | <b>Mid North Coast</b>      | 3.57%       | 13.00%      | 25.00%        |
|                                  | <b>Nepean</b>               | 4.76%       | 40.11%      | 92.76%        |
|                                  | <b>New England</b>          | 3.45%       | 3.60%       | 11.96%        |
|                                  | <b>Northern Sydney</b>      | 4.41%       | 4.33%       | 23.65%        |
|                                  | <b>Orana Far West</b>       | 9.76%       | 37.33%      | 64.46%        |
|                                  | <b>Riverina/Murray</b>      | 7.90%       | 7.03%       | N/A           |
|                                  | <b>South East Sydney</b>    | 2.25%       | 28.79%      | 100.00%       |
|                                  | <b>South West Sydney</b>    | 7.61%       | 4.85%       | 28.71%        |
|                                  | <b>Southern Highlands</b>   | 7.89%       | 24.95%      | 9.13%         |
| <b>Western Sydney</b>            | 5.79%                       | 26.58%      | 56.72%      |               |
| <b>NSW state average</b>         | 5.56%                       | 17.52%      | 39.73%      |               |
| <b>VIC</b>                       | <b>Barwon-South Western</b> | 3.04%       | 2.15%       | 12.87%        |
|                                  | <b>Eastern Metro</b>        | 3.64%       | 4.02%       | 5.33%         |
|                                  | <b>Gippsland</b>            | 8.96%       | 7.42%       | N/A           |
|                                  | <b>Grampians</b>            | 2.81%       | 1.85%       | N/A           |

|  |                                |                                     |        |        |        |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
|  | <b>Hume</b>                    | 2.59%                               | 2.73%  | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Loddon-Mallee</b>           | 1.88%                               | 1.85%  | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Northern Metro</b>          | 4.60%                               | 1.12%  | 3.88%  |        |
|  | <b>Southern Metro</b>          | 5.78%                               | 4.85%  | 47.00% |        |
|  | <b>Western Metro</b>           | 2.36%                               | 0.38%  | 0.61%  |        |
|  | <b>VIC state average</b>       | 3.99%                               | 3.14%  | 15.74% |        |
| <b>QLD</b>                               | <b>Brisbane North</b>          | 15.82%                              | 13.33% | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Brisbane South</b>          | 15.07%                              | 5.82%  | 19.82% |        |
|  | <b>Cabool</b>                  | 11.46%                              | 16.03% | 40.80% |        |
|  | <b>Central West</b>            | 3.65%                               | 40.20% | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Darling Downs</b>           | 8.12%                               | 9.84%  | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Far North</b>               | 15.74%                              | 7.30%  | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Fitzroy</b>                 | 12.66%                              | 12.83% | 13.01% |        |
|  | <b>Logan River Valley</b>      | 22.41%                              | 10.68% | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Mackay</b>                  | 7.18%                               | 6.60%  | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>North West</b>              | 32.01%                              | 57.07% | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Northern</b>                | 4.11%                               | 2.74%  | 31.85% |        |
|  | <b>South Coast</b>             | 13.08%                              | 9.22%  | 29.64% |        |
|  | <b>South West</b>              | 18.38%                              | N/A    | 16.85% |        |
|  | <b>Sunshine Coast</b>          | 18.65%                              | 15.84% | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>West Moreton</b>            | 11.69%                              | 6.90%  | 20.47% |        |
|  | <b>Wide Bay</b>                | 7.42%                               | 9.90%  | 23.30% |        |
|  |                                | <b>QLD state average</b>            | 13.89% | 10.49% | 25.31% |
|  | <b>SA</b>                      | <b>Eyre Peninsula</b>               | 0.00%  | N/A    | N/A    |
|  |                                | <b>Hills, Mallee &amp; Southern</b> | 4.66%  | 3.26%  | N/A    |
| <b>Metropolitan East</b>                 |                                | 6.86%                               | 4.11%  | 30.34% |        |
| <b>Metropolitan North</b>                |                                | 8.63%                               | 0.46%  | 80.05% |        |
| <b>Metropolitan South</b>                |                                | 0.17%                               | 10.02% | N/A    |        |
| <b>Metropolitan West</b>                 |                                | 1.28%                               | 22.64% | 55.33% |        |
| <b>Mid North</b>                         |                                | 31.26%                              | 3.33%  | 15.43% |        |
| <b>Riverland</b>                         |                                | 4.57%                               | N/A    | N/A    |        |
| <b>South East</b>                        |                                | 1.28%                               | 1.68%  | N/A    |        |
| <b>Whyalla, Flinders &amp; Far North</b> |                                | 2.43%                               | 3.59%  | N/A    |        |
| <b>Yorke, Lower North &amp; Barossa</b>  |                                | 2.57%                               | 0.11%  | 45.26% |        |
|  | <b>SA state average</b>        | 4.86%                               | 6.10%  | 34.81% |        |
| <b>WA</b>                                | <b>Goldfields</b>              | 8.44%                               | N/A    | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Great Southern</b>          | 12.09%                              | N/A    | 75.33% |        |
|  | <b>Kimberley</b>               | 1.51%                               | N/A    | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Metropolitan East</b>       | 4.26%                               | 4.11%  | 30.34% |        |
|  | <b>Metropolitan North</b>      | 12.08%                              | 0.46%  | 80.05% |        |
|  | <b>Metropolitan South East</b> | 14.24%                              | 34.16% | 15.95% |        |
|  | <b>Metropolitan South West</b> | 4.60%                               | 5.42%  | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Mid West</b>                | 10.94%                              | N/A    | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>Pilbara</b>                 | 6.22%                               | N/A    | N/A    |        |
|  | <b>South West</b>              | 4.06%                               | N/A    | 16.85% |        |
|  | <b>Wheatbelt</b>               | 5.11%                               | N/A    | N/A    |        |
|  |                                | <b>WA state average</b>             | 8.68%  | 25.53% | 32.20% |
| <b>TAS</b>                               | <b>North Western</b>           | 5.65%                               | N/A    | 63.91% |        |
|  | <b>Northern</b>                | 2.88%                               | 2.74%  | 31.85% |        |
|  | <b>Southern</b>                | 2.25%                               | 17.70% | 68.36% |        |
|  | <b>TAS state average</b>       | 3.20%                               | 13.44% | 47.94% |        |

|                  |                              |        |        |        |
|------------------|------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>NT</b>        | <b>Alice Springs</b>         | 3.97%  | N/A    | N/A    |
|                  | <b>Barkly</b>                | 10.81% | N/A    | N/A    |
|                  | <b>Darwin</b>                | 3.02%  | 19.00% | 4.95%  |
|                  | <b>East Arnhem</b>           | 4.46%  | N/A    | N/A    |
|                  | <b>Katherine</b>             | 19.60% | N/A    | N/A    |
|                  | <b>NT territory average</b>  | 6.17%  | 19.00% | 4.95%  |
| <b>ACT</b>       | <b>ACT</b>                   | 4.58%  | 6.26%  | 2.93%  |
|                  | <b>ACT territory average</b> | 4.58%  | 6.26%  | 2.93%  |
| <b>Australia</b> | <b>National average</b>      | 6.70%  | 11.91% | 28.84% |

NOTES:

N/A indicates that there are no services in the region.

Vacancy rates at the regional level, as shown in the above table, should be interpreted with caution.

- New services tend to experience a gradual uptake of recipients, and frequently take several months to reach occupancy levels of 90 per cent or more.
- A new service in a region with only one or two other established services will significantly increase vacancy levels at the regional level, even where the occupancy of the established services is above 90 per cent, as is frequently the case.
- Departmental data show that the majority of EACH services that have been operating for more than nine months have occupancies in excess of 90 per cent.
- Only a small number of EACHD services have been in operation for more than nine months.
- In the CACP program, aggregate occupancy levels (for example, at the regional level) are also sensitive to effects of gradual occupancy build-up in new services. However, because the program is more established and larger than EACH and EACHD, these effects are less marked.

For these reasons, regional vacancy levels are not a good indicator of the relationship between supply and demand.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-099

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: COMMUNITY AGED CARE PACKAGES

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

Could you please provide the dollar amount, on a weekly and annual basis, of the co-contribution from the care recipient for CACP, EACH and EACH-D?

Answer:

The maximum care recipient contribution for the Community Aged Care Packages (CACP), Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH) and the Extended Aged Care at Home Dementia (EACHD) for people on the basic rate of pension, is calculated at 17.5 per cent of the base rate of pension per day (i.e. excluding the GST Supplement), rounded down to the nearest cent.

As at 20 September 2006 when the basic rate of pension was reviewed the daily care recipient fee for CACP, EACH and EACHD is \$6.17.

|   | Daily  | Weekly  | Annually  |
|---|--------|---------|-----------|
| <b>Fee Rates – CACP, EACH and EACHD</b> | \$6.17 | \$43.19 | \$2252.05 |

**Note: these rates are based on 17.5% of the daily rate of basic pension as at 20 September 2006**

For those care recipients whose income exceeds the basic rate of pension, the maximum fee is 17.5 per cent of the person's income to the level of the basic pension, plus up to 50 per cent of income above the basic pension.

A care recipients' access to any of these programs should not be affected by their ability to pay fees, but rather by the service providers' capacity to meet their assessed need. All fees charged should be determined and agreed to in consultation with the care recipient.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-142

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: 2006 AGED CARE APPROVALS ROUND

Hansard Page: CA 30-36

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) When was the list of recommendations received in central office (from the state and territory offices)?
- b) We will provide you on notice with an answer to the question that shows how many applications there were in each planning region and how many successful applications there were.
- c) For the south-west district in Queensland, how many applications were received and how many were successful?
- d) When was the final date that the 2006-07 ACAR final list was sent to the Minister's Office?
- e) Could the department provide the Terms of Reference for the Probity Review of ACAR?
- f) In the South Coast Aged Care Planning Region, without going into specifics, were there any successful applications from applicants which were 'bed ready' – ready to start?
- g) Were there any other applications, particularly successful applications, that were as 'bed ready' as Life Care?
- h) So you would as a matter of course know what the zoning on the land is (contained in applications for places)?

Answers:

- a) The central office of the department received the state and territory office recommendations for residential places in mid September 2006 and for community care places in late October 2006.
- b) and c) The number of applications received and the number of successful applications in each planning region is provided in Attachment A.

- d) 14 December 2006.
- e) A copy of the Probity Review Terms of Reference are provided at Attachment B.
- f) Yes.
- g) Yes.
- h) All applicants who have acquired or identified land or buildings associated with their application for places are required to provide evidence of the action they have take to acquire or identify the land or buildings. This evidence may include, but is not limited to, relevant documents such as a development application, evidence of pre-lodgement meetings with Council, current zoning information, copies of title, contract, signed lease or option.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

| Region             | Residential Places          |            | CACP                        |            | EACH                        |            | EACH-D                      |            | CAPITAL                     |            |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|                    | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful |
| Central Coast      | 5                           | 2          | 16                          | 2          | -                           | -          | 6                           | 2          | -                           | -          |
| Central West       | 1                           | 1          | 6                           | 2          | -                           | -          | 3                           | 1          | 1                           | 0          |
| Far North Coast    | 9                           | 6          | 16                          | 3          | -                           | -          | 10                          | 2          | -                           | -          |
| Hunter             | 11                          | 3          | 18                          | 4          | 10                          | 3          | 9                           | 2          | 1                           | 0          |
| Illawarra          | 18                          | 4          | 27                          | 6          | -                           | -          | 10                          | 2          | 2                           | 0          |
| Inner West         | 5                           | 4          | 14                          | 3          | 10                          | 2          | 5                           | 3          | 1                           | 0          |
| Mid North Coast    | 9                           | 6          | 24                          | 4          | 17                          | 3          | 15                          | 2          | 1                           | 0          |
| Nepean             | 2                           | 1          | 12                          | 3          | 1                           | 0          | 6                           | 1          | -                           | -          |
| New England        | 6                           | 5          | 5                           | 1          | 7                           | 2          | 5                           | 1          | 2                           | 1          |
| Northern Sydney    | 6                           | 2          | 32                          | 10         | 15                          | 4          | 12                          | 4          | -                           | -          |
| Orana Far West     | 2                           | 1          | 3                           | 1          | 1                           | 0          | 2                           | 1          | 1                           | 0          |
| Riverina/Murray    | 12                          | 6          | 12                          | 2          | 3                           | 0          | 7                           | 2          | 6                           | 3          |
| South East Sydney  | 10                          | 7          | 28                          | 3          | 23                          | 3          | 14                          | 3          | -                           | -          |
| South West Sydney  | 9                           | 9          | 29                          | 4          | 17                          | 4          | 12                          | 3          | 2                           | 1          |
| Southern Highlands | 5                           | 2          | 9                           | 2          | -                           | -          | 3                           | 2          | -                           | -          |
| Western Sydney     | 3                           | 3          | 17                          | 5          | 13                          | 2          | 8                           | 2          | -                           | -          |

## VICTORIA

| Region               | Residential Places          |            | CACP                        |            | EACH                        |            | EACH-D                      |            | CAPITAL                     |            |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|                      | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful |
| Barwon-South Western | 8                           | 4          | 17                          | 2          | 8                           | 1          | -                           | -          | 1                           | 0          |
| Eastern Metro        | 36                          | 6          | 33                          | 5          | 20                          | 4          | 11                          | 2          | 2                           | 0          |
| Gippsland            | 5                           | 2          | 12                          | 1          | 1                           | 0          | 8                           | 1          | 5                           | 1          |
| Grampians            | 4                           | 3          | 10                          | 1          | 6                           | 2          | 7                           | 2          | 2                           | 1          |
| Hume                 | 11                          | 4          | 11                          | 2          | 1                           | 0          | 9                           | 2          | 4                           | 2          |
| Loddon-Mallee        | 10                          | 4          | 14                          | 2          | 1                           | 0          | 6                           | 3          | 5                           | 3          |
| Northern Metro       | 15                          | 6          | 34                          | 3          | 13                          | 4          | 7                           | 1          | 2                           | 0          |
| Southern Metro       | 35                          | 8          | 36                          | 3          | 17                          | 2          | 14                          | 3          | 2                           | 2          |
| Western Metro        | 11                          | 7          | 30                          | 2          | 15                          | 2          | 8                           | 1          | 1                           | 0          |



## QUEENSLAND

| Region             | Residential Places          |            | CACP                        |            | EACH                        |            | EACH-D                      |            | CAPITAL                     |            |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|                    | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful |
| Brisbane North     | 4                           | 1          | 18                          | 2          | -                           | -          | 4                           | 1          | 1                           | 0          |
| Brisbane South     | 17                          | 3          | 29                          | 3          | 10                          | 2          | 6                           | 2          | 1                           | 0          |
| Cabool             | 12                          | 5          | 15                          | 3          | 8                           | 1          | 5                           | 1          | -                           | -          |
| Darling Downs      | 7                           | 5          | 7                           | 2          | 4                           | 1          | 3                           | 1          | 7                           | 1          |
| Far North          | 3                           | 2          | 1                           | 0          | -                           | -          | 4                           | 1          | 4                           | 1          |
| Fitzroy            | -                           | -          | 4                           | 3          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          |
| Logan River Valley | 9                           | 2          | 12                          | 3          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | 3                           | 1          |
| Mackay             | 1                           | 0          | 5                           | 2          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          |
| Northern           | 2                           | 2          | 6                           | 2          | 2                           | 0          | 5                           | 1          | 1                           | 0          |
| North West         | 1                           | 0          | 1                           | 0          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | 2                           | 0          |
| South Coast        | 14                          | 5          | 23                          | 3          | 8                           | 3          | 9                           | 1          | 1                           | 0          |
| South West         | 1                           | 1          | 1                           | 0          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | 1                           | 1          |
| Sunshine Coast     | 12                          | 7          | 19                          | 3          | 7                           | 2          | 7                           | 2          | 1                           | 0          |
| West Moreton       | 3                           | 2          | 4                           | 2          | 4                           | 2          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          |
| Wide Bay           | 5                           | 4          | 13                          | 4          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | 2                           | 2          |

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

| Region           | Residential Places          |            | CACP                        |            | EACH                        |            | EACH-D                      |            | CAPITAL                     |            |
|------------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|                  | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful |
| Goldfields       | 1                           | 1          | 1                           | 1          | 1                           | 1          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          |
| Great Southern   | 1                           | 1          | 3                           | 1          | 1                           | 1          | -                           | -          | 1                           | 1          |
| Kimberley        | -                           | -          | 1                           | 1          | 1                           | 1          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          |
| Metro East       | 3                           | 2          | 11                          | 3          | -                           | -          | 4                           | 1          | -                           | -          |
| Metro North      | 8                           | 6          | 20                          | 5          | -                           | -          | 4                           | 1          | -                           | -          |
| Metro South East | 5                           | 4          | 6                           | 1          | -                           | -          | 1                           | 0          | 2                           | 0          |
| Metro South West | 8                           | 6          | 19                          | 7          | -                           | -          | 5                           | 1          | 1                           | 1          |
| Mid West         | 1                           | 1          | 3                           | 1          | 1                           | 0          | 1                           | 1          | -                           | -          |
| South West       | 1                           | 1          | 3                           | 0          | 4                           | 2          | 1                           | 1          | -                           | -          |
| Wheatbelt        | 1                           | 1          | 3                           | 1          | 2                           | 1          | 1                           | 0          | 1                           | 0          |

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

| Region                        | Residential Places          |            | CACP                        |            | EACH                        |            | EACH-D                      |            | CAPITAL                     |            |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|                               | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful |
| Hills, Mallee & Southern      | 4                           | 3          | 9                           | 2          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | 2                           | 1          |
| Metro East                    | 2                           | 1          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | 9                           | 3          | -                           | -          |
| Metro North                   | 16                          | 3          | 21                          | 5          | 15                          | 1          | 9                           | 1          | -                           | -          |
| Metro South                   | 20                          | 5          | -                           | -          | 16                          | 4          | 9                           | 2          | -                           | -          |
| Metro West                    | 7                           | 2          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | 2                           | 0          |
| Mid North                     | 2                           | 1          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | 2                           | 2          |
| Riverland                     | 1                           | 0          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          |
| South East                    | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | -                           | -          | 1                           | 0          |
| Whyalla, Flinders & Far North | 1                           | 1          | 1                           | 0          | -                           | -          | 2                           | 2          | 2                           | 1          |
| Yorke, Lower North & Barossa  | 3                           | 0          | 2                           | 0          | 5                           | 1          | -                           | -          | 3                           | 1          |

## TASMANIA

| Region        | Residential Places          |            | CACP                        |            | EACH                        |            |             | EACH-D                      |            | CAPITAL                     |            |
|---------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|               | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No Deferred | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful |
| North Western | 1                           | 1          | 6                           | 1          | 2                           | 0          | 1           | 1                           | 1          | 2                           | 0          |
| Northern      | 4                           | 3          | 9                           | 3          | -                           | -          | -           | -                           | -          | 5                           | 1          |
| Southern      | 5                           | 5          | 18                          | 2          | 1                           | 0          | -           | 8                           | 2          | 2                           | -          |

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

| Region | Residential Places          |            | CACP                        |            | EACH                        |            | EACH-D                      |            | CAPITAL                     |            |
|--------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|        | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful | No of Applications Received | Successful |
| ACT    | 8                           | 5          | 7                           | 2          | 6                           | 3          | 6                           | 3          | -                           | -          |

NORTHERN TERRITORY

|               | Residential Places                 |                   | CACP                               |                   | EACH                               |                   | EACH-D                             |                   | CAPITAL                            |                   |
|---------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Region</i> | <i>No of Applications Received</i> | <i>Successful</i> | <i>No of Applications Received</i> | <i>Successful</i> | <i>No of Applications Received</i> | <i>Successful</i> | <i>No of Applications Received</i> | <i>Successful</i> | <i>No of Applications Received</i> | <i>Successful</i> |
| Alice Springs | -                                  | -                 | -                                  | -                 | 1                                  | 0                 | 2                                  | 1                 | -                                  | -                 |
| Darwin        | 2                                  | 1                 | 5                                  | 1                 | 4                                  | 1                 | 4                                  | 1                 | 3                                  | 2                 |

**Probity Review of the Aged Care Approvals Round**  
**Terms of reference**

The review will examine:

- probity and ethics guidelines and associated training;
- management of conflict of interest registers;
- confidentiality and security;
- the decision making process; and
- feedback to applicants.

It is anticipated the review would include, but not be limited to, examining material relating to the 2005 Approvals Round, together with available material from the 2006 Approvals Round. In addition, interviews would be conducted with staff from the Department's state and territory offices and central office, applicants for places, members of peak industry bodies and staff from the Minister's Office.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 14 February 2007

Question: E07-146

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: STAR OF THE SEA

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) The current CEO contacted the department about the financial situation of the facility in Aug/Sept 2006. What action did the department take following the receipt of this information?
- b) As a condition of the Sanctions an administrator has been appointed. What is the role of the administrator and what findings has the person made in regards to the financial management of the facility?

Answer:

- a) A capital grant of \$135,756 was made by the department to pay for building works.
- b) The role of the Administrator is to assist the Approved Provider to remedy its non-compliance and to comply with all its responsibilities under the Aged Care Act 1997. With the assistance of the Administrator, serious risk was mitigated at the service by 13 February 2007. The Administrator is responsible to the approved provider and any assessments are made internal to the service. As such, this information is protected under the *Aged Care Act 1997*.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-147

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: CURIE NURSING HOME

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) At the review audit, the Agency determined “serious risk” in relation to the home’s failure to properly manage clinical care, specialised nursing care, and behavioural management of residents. Why did this facility not receive sanctions?
- b) What are the Agency and the Department doing to ensure this facility complies with the expected outcomes?

Answer:

- a) The department did impose sanctions on this facility. The department received a Serious Risk Report from the Agency on 15 September 2006. On the same day the department issued a Notice of Decision to Impose Sanctions to the Approved Provider of Curie Nursing Home, Samir Pty Ltd.
- b) The Agency has continued to visit the home on a regular basis to monitor non-compliance with the accreditation standards. Serious risk was mitigated by 2 December 2006. A Site Audit conducted by the Agency on 30 and 31 January 2007 indicated that the home had achieved full compliance with all 44 of the accreditation outcomes.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-171

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: AGED CARE SERVICES AUSTRALIA GROUP

Senator McLucas asked: CA41

Was there non-compliance found at Aged Care Services Australia Group facilities since their purchase by Arnan Rouse?

*Answer*

During 2006/07

Narracan Gardens had two non-compliances identified at site audit in August 2006 – in 2.8 Pain management and 2.13 Behavioural management. The home is now compliant.

Cosgrove Park Aged Care Facility had one non-compliance identified at support contact. Information about support contacts is protected under Part 6-2 of Chapter 6 of the *Aged Care Act 1997*. The home is now compliant.

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-172

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: VIEWHILLS MANOR

Senator McLucas asked:

Have you got a list of the visits that the Agency has had to Viewhills Manor subsequent to that 8 October 2004 sanction being imposed?

*Answer*

From 8 October 2004 to 13 February 2007 the following visits have been conducted at Viewhills Manor:

Two accreditation site audits  
Two review audits  
42 support contacts



Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-080

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: COMMONWEALTH CARELINK CENTRES

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

For Commonwealth Carelink Centres please provide the forward estimates specifying expenditure against the 2006-07 budget and any uncommitted funds in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 against the relevant budget for each of those years.

Answer:

Programme funding for Programme 4.3 – Ageing Information and Support (which includes funding for Commonwealth Carelink) is \$39.264 million in 2006-07.

Programme funding beyond the current Budget Year is not published and is not available.

As advised by Senator Minchin to Senator Chris Evans in Parliamentary Question on Notice 1310 to 1328 in October 2005, internal programme information relating to the Australian Government General Government Sector is not publicly released.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-100

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: HACC

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

Could the Department please provide the Commonwealth funding to the Home and Community Care (HACC) program by state and territory, for 2003/04, 2004/05, 2005/06 and 2006/07 and for the forward estimate?

Answer:

|         | NSW                               | VIC     | QLD     | SA     | WA     | TAS    | NT    | ACT    | National       |
|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|----------------|
|         | <b>All figures are \$ million</b> |         |         |        |        |        |       |        |                |
| 2003-04 | 228.726                           | 189.879 | 145.883 | 63.086 | 72.497 | 18.743 | 5.058 | 8.516  | <b>732.388</b> |
| 2004-05 | 247.836                           | 201.241 | 161.275 | 67.619 | 78.775 | 20.307 | 5.476 | 9.329  | <b>791.858</b> |
| 2005-06 | 265.707                           | 215.469 | 179.737 | 73.111 | 85.594 | 22.142 | 5.944 | 10.131 | <b>857.835</b> |
| 2006-07 | 291.650                           | 226.552 | 197.657 | 77.862 | 93.224 | 23.891 | 6.432 | 11.223 | <b>928.401</b> |

The table above provides the program breakdown by state and territory for the published Budget estimate for 2006-07.

Total funding for the HACC program in 2007-08 is \$1,003.787 million. The Australian Government has not published state / territory splits beyond the current financial year and does not publish Forward Estimates. This information cannot be provided.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-144

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: CANTERBURY MULTICULTURAL AGED AND DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICE (CMADSS)

Hansard Page: CA45, CA46

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) What action did the department take after receiving a copy of the Walter Turnbull report?
- b) Is the department aware that CMADSS recorded an operating profit of \$773,000 after provisions? Fifty-five per cent of that profit was generated from CACPs?
- c) Is the department aware that Walter Turnbull found that some of the examples of expenditure that could be perceived as being fraudulent included tickets to political fundraising dinners?
- d) Can the department advise the committee in which areas CMADSS were not complying with it's service agreement, if that is what it is called?
- e) Could I also have the dates (of the investigation)?
- f) Could you confirm that your section (Audit & Fraud Control) has in fact read the Walter Turnbull report – in the interest of knowing where you differ with the conclusions of the Walter Turnbull report?
- g) How did the NSW office of the department verify the information provided by CMADSS (in acquittals)?
- h) Can the department provide the committee with a blank acquittal form?
- i) Can the department indicate whether it agrees or disagrees with the finding that Walter Turnbull has that examples of expenditure that could be perceived as fraudulent include: reimbursement of mobile phone expenses; reimbursement of internet access of up to \$100 per month; tickets to political fundraising dinners; tickets to an Australia Day dinner; and donations to the Tsunami appeal.
- j) Can the internal report on CMADSS be provided to the Committee?

Answer:

- a) The Walter Turnbull Report was received by the department in September 2006. The scope of this report was a compliance audit of the three years- 2001/02, 2002/03, 2003/04 and the expenditure of funding received through the Funding Agreement with the New South Wales Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC). It was not a review of expenditure or activities in relation to funding received by Canterbury Multicultural Aged and Disability Support Service (CMADSS) for Commonwealth programs.

Prior to receiving the Walter Turnbull Report, and in response to issues raised by interested parties and with evidence of an operating surplus, the Audit and Fraud Control Branch (AFCB) of the department undertook an investigation into the operation of and services provided by CMADSS. This investigation was concluded in May 2006.

This investigation considered the performance of CMADSS against the Deed of Agreement, specifically Clause 2.2 that requires, inter alia, that an Approved Provider comply with all requirements of the *Aged Care Act 1997* and the Principles, including obligations in relation to record keeping, and that the Approved Provider acknowledge that the consequence of a breach of a provision of the Act, Principles or Agreement can include the imposition of sanctions.

The AFCB investigation concluded that whilst there was evidence that CMADSS may not be complying with some provisions of the Deed of Agreement with the Commonwealth, including in relation to Governance and administrative management, services covered by the Deed of Agreement were being provided and the Commonwealth was suffering no financial loss, and so there was no evidence to warrant cessation of funding.

The department did review the Walter Turnbull Report. However, it was satisfied with the findings of the internal investigations and activities of rectification continuing by CMADSS.

- b) The department was aware that CMADSS had an annual operating surplus of CACP funds. CMADSS has now substantially reduced the operating surplus, evidenced through an increase in the hours of service, which are now higher than the state average.

There is no externally audited figure available to identify the proportion of CMADSS reported operating surplus attributable to CACP funds.

- c) The department has not found in the final WalterTurnbull Report an assertion that there are examples of expenditure that could be perceived as fraudulent. On page 57 the report states that WalterTurnbull “found insufficient evidence to support allegations of improper practices”.
- d) The department found, through the AFCB investigation, that CMADSS were not complying with some provisions of the Deed of Agreement with the Commonwealth, including in relation to Governance and administrative management.

- e) The AFCB investigation commenced on 27 April 2006 and was completed on 30 May 2006.
- f) The Walter Turnbull Report was not completed until July 2006 so was not considered as part of the AFCB investigation. The report provides no evidence of offences against the Commonwealth.
- g) All National Respite for Carers Program (NRCP) funds are required to be acquitted for the first six months of the financial year, due in January each year, and a full financial year acquittal is required by the end of September following the end of the financial year. This includes audited statements certified by an independent and qualified accountant/auditor. The authorised officer of the funded organisation, usually the Chief Finance Officer or Chief Executive Officer is also required to sign a certificate of compliance.

Each month CMADSS certifies that they are entitled to receive funding through CACP in relation to the number of CACP recipients they have provided services to in the preceding month. This certification is the basis by which Medicare Australia generate subsidy payments. Medicare Australia then verifies that CMADSS has an allocation of places and an eligible client in the package prior to making the payment. This information is also verified through the Community Care Quality Reporting site visit.

- h) Copies of the blank CACP annual audited financial statement and NRCP annual Financial Activity Report forms and the Medicare Australia payment form are attached.
- i) In response to direct questioning by the department CMADSS responded that they did not use Commonwealth funding provided through CACP and NRCP for donations, purchase of tickets to political fundraisers, tickets to social events or any other purpose other than what the funding was intended for. The department has not found any evidence to suggest that the advice provided by CMADSS is incorrect or misleading.
- j) The department has sought legal advice regarding privacy issues associated with the provision of the report to the Committee and will advise the Committee further.

**COMMUNITY AGED CARE PACKAGE PROGRAM  
2005-06 AUDITED STATEMENT**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| APPROVED PROVIDER  |  |
| <b>Canterbury Multicultural Aged and Disability Support Service Inc</b>  |  |
| <i>Use the space at right to update your approved provider's address details if necessary, as required in clause 10.1 of the Community Care Deed of Agreement.</i> |  |

*If details are incorrect, please enter correct details in this column*

|  |  |
|--|--|
| SERVICE  |  |
| <b>Name:</b> Canterbury Multicultural CACPs                  |  |
| <b>Street address</b><br>32 South Parade<br>CAMPSIE NSW 2194 |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| <b>Postal address</b><br>PO Box 234<br>CAMPSIE NSW 2194      |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| <b>Telephone:</b> 02 9718 6199                               |  |
| <b>FAX:</b> 02 9789 2392                                     |  |
| <b>Email:</b> exec@cmadss.org.au                             |  |
| SERVICE MANAGER/CO-ORDINATOR                                 |  |
| <b>Name:</b> Mr John Dowd                                    |  |
| <b>Position:</b> Executive Officer                           |  |
| <b>Phone:</b> 02 9718 6199                                   |  |
| <b>Fax:</b> 02 9789 2392                                     |  |
| <b>Email:</b> exec@cmadss.org.au                             |  |
| CONTACT PERSON FOR THE FINANCIAL DETAILS IN THIS FORM        |  |
| <b>Name:</b> Ms Bee Koh                                      |  |
| <b>Position:</b> Treasurer                                   |  |
| <b>Phone:</b> 02 9718 0121                                   |  |
| <b>Fax:</b> 02 9718 6357                                     |  |
| <b>Email:</b> bee_koh@cass.org.au                            |  |

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

*Please read these Explanatory Notes before completing the rest of this form.*

**Should you require any assistance in completing this form please contact Tim Horton, Aged Care Branch, at the Department of Health and Ageing on (02) 9263 3757 or free call 1800 048 998.**

**It is an approved provider's responsibility under section 63-1 of the Aged Care Act 1997 (the Act) to comply with conditions of allocation. Failure to lodge acquittal information, or failure to lodge it by the due date, may constitute a failure to comply with these conditions of allocation and lead to non-compliance action under Part 4.4 of the Act. Under section 8-3 of the Act, an approved provider must also demonstrate sound financial management, comply with its responsibilities as an approved provider, and comply with obligations arising from the receipt of community care subsidy or grant. Failure to meet these requirements may lead to a review of your approved provider status under the Act.**

1. It is a requirement under the provisions of the Community Care Deed of Agreement and the Community Care Grant Agreement (where applicable) that a statement of each financial year's income and expenditure is provided.
2. This form is provided for the acquittal of the 2005-06 Community Care Service subsidy, and Community Care Grant (where applicable) paid to your organisation.
3. This form must be fully completed and returned to the following address by **30 September 2006** (unless the Department has agreed with your provider to a different reporting timeframe):

CACP/EACH/EACHD Executive Officer  
Aged Care Branch  
Department of Health and Ageing  
GPO Box 9848  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

The acquittal of a community care grant must be returned by 30 November 2006.

4. Please round all reported expenditure to the nearest dollar.
5. **Please indicate basis of apportionment if less than the whole cost is attributable to this service.**
6. When correcting errors, please cross out the incorrect figure and initial the correction. The initials must be those of the person who completed the Certification of Audited Statements of Income and Expenditure. Please do not use correction fluid to make corrections.
7. The income and expenditure statement must be certified by **both** an independent accountant (unless the approved provider is a local or state government body) **and an authorised officer of the approved provider** (clauses 2.6.1(a) and 2.6.3 of the deed of agreement).
8. The Statement of Compliance must be signed by an authorised officer of your organisation.

**SECTION A – INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF SUBSIDY**

**PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS IN RELATION TO INCOME OF THE COMMUNITY AGED CARE PACKAGE SERVICE FOR 2005-06 IN RESPECT OF SUBSIDY**

**1. INCOME**

|          | Category  | Income<br>2005-06 |
|----------|---|-------------------|
| <b>A</b> | <b>Commonwealth Community Care Subsidy</b><br>(Do not include details of Community Care Grant funds here – see Section B Page 6)                          | \$                |
| <b>B</b> | <b>Client Fees</b>  | \$                |
| <b>C</b> | <b>Interest Earned On Subsidy</b>   | \$                |
| <b>D</b> | <b>Client Payments for Non CACP Services</b>  | \$                |
| <b>E</b> | <b>Other:</b><br>Please give details including any other funds received by the Community Care Package Service in 2005-06 (include the sale of any assets) | \$                |
|          |   | \$                |
|          |   | \$                |
|          |   | \$                |
| <b>F</b> | <b>TOTAL INCOME (Item 1)</b>  | \$                |



## 2. EXPENDITURE & CARE HOURS

### (a). Direct Care Related Expenditure

|          | Category  | Description  | Expenditure<br>2005-<br>06<br>\$ |
|----------|---|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>G</b> | Salaries for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• care staff</li> <li>• case managers</li> <li>• coordinators</li> </ul> | Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• salaries, wages and on costs</li> <li>• workers compensation</li> <li>• superannuation</li> <li>• leave provisions</li> </ul>                                 |                                  |
| <b>H</b> | Training for the above staff  | Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• staff training</li> <li>• subscriptions</li> <li>• library resources</li> <li>• conferences</li> </ul>  |                                  |
| <b>I</b> | Care related expenditure  | Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consumables</li> <li>• one-off expenditure for clients</li> </ul>   |                                  |
| <b>J</b> | Care related travel   | Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• all travel and vehicle expenditure for clients</li> <li>• travel between clients</li> </ul>   |                                  |
| <b>K</b> | Special Access for clients  | Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• interpreters &amp; preparation of translations</li> <li>• recruitment of bilingual staff</li> <li>• costs associated with specific cultural events</li> </ul> |                                  |
| <b>L</b> | Sub-contracted or brokered client services  | Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• client services purchased from another organisation or individual eg Meals-on-Wheels</li> <li>• contract care staff</li> </ul>                                |                                  |
| <b>M</b> | Home Maintenance & Modification Costs   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• home modifications and maintenance undertaken by maintenance or tradespeople</li> </ul>   |                                  |
| <b>N</b> | Other care related expenditure (please describe)  |  |                                  |
| <b>O</b> | <b>TOTAL DIRECT CARE EXPENDITURE</b>  |  | <b>\$</b>                        |

(b). Other Costs

|   | Category  | Description  | Expenditure<br>2005-06<br>\$ |
|---|---|--|------------------------------|
| P | Operating Costs                                       | <b>Includes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• utilities</li><li>• postage</li><li>• telephone</li><li>• accounting and auditing fees</li><li>• insurances</li><li>• bank charges</li><li>• office equipment/maintenance</li><li>• rent/payments in lieu of rent</li><li>• cleaning</li><li>• repairs and maintenance</li><li>• stationery</li><li>• advertising</li><li>• non direct care vehicle costs</li></ul> |                              |
| Q | Administration Fees/Costs                             | <b>Includes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• all administration fees or charges</li><li>• administration wages and on-costs</li></ul>  |                              |
| R | Management Fees/Costs                                 | <b>Includes:</b><br>all management fees or charges <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• management wages and on-costs</li></ul>   |                              |
| S | Depreciation costs                                    | <b>Includes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• depreciation on motor vehicles</li><li>• depreciation on office equipment</li></ul>   |                              |
| T | Other costs (please describe)                         |  |                              |
| U | <b>TOTAL OF EXPENDITURE ON OTHER COSTS</b>            |  | <b>\$</b>                    |
| V | <b>TOTAL DIRECT CARE EXPENDITURE</b>                  |  | <b>\$</b>                    |
| W | <b>TOTAL OF EXPENDITURE ON OTHER COSTS</b>            |  | <b>\$</b>                    |
| X | <b>TOTAL OF ALL EXPENDITURE (Item 2)</b>              |  | <b>\$</b>                    |
| Y | <b><u>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</u> (Item 1 minus Item 2)</b> |  | <b>\$</b>                    |

**SECTION B – 2005-06 ACQUITTAL OF COMMUNITY CARE GRANT**

Under section 76-1 of the Aged Care Act 1997, Community Care Grants are provided to certain approved providers in respect of the costs of projects for establishing new community services or extending existing community care services to cover additional areas.

Expenditure must only be for the purpose and costs described in the community care grant agreement (clause 3.1 and Schedule 1). An approved provider may apply to vary the conditions of the allocation under section 77-5 of the Aged Care Act 1997 (“the Act”).

Under Division 95 of the Act, where a condition to which the grant is subject is not met, the amount of the grant (or so much of the amount as the Secretary determines) is a recoverable amount. In addition, under section 77-4 of the Act, the Secretary of the Department may vary or revoke an allocation of a community care grant if the Secretary is satisfied that a condition to which the allocation is subject has not been met. Variation may result in the recovery of the amount of the grant.

A decision to vary or revoke a community care grant is reviewable under Part 6.1 of the Aged Care Act 1997.

|                             |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| <b>INCOME</b>               |           |
| <b>Community Care Grant</b> | <b>\$</b> |

| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>   | <b>(please provide full details of items purchased below)</b> |
|--|---|
|  | \$  |
|  | \$  |
|  | \$  |
|  | \$  |
|  | \$  |
|  | \$  |
|  | \$  |
|  | \$  |
| <b>TOTAL Expenditure in relation to Community Care Grant</b> | <b>\$</b>   |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT in relation to Community Care Grant</b> | <b>\$</b> |
|--|-----------|

## CERTIFICATION OF AUDITED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This certification must be signed by both an independent accountant (unless the approved provider is a local or state government body) and an authorised officer of the approved provider (clauses 2.6.1(a) and 2.6.3 of the deed of agreement).

The independent accountant must be a person who is qualified to be a member of a recognised accounting body in Australia and who is not a member, public officer or employee of the approved provider.

### Certification

I hereby certify that:

- the expenditure detailed in this audited statement of Income and Expenditure in respect of the 2005-06 Community Care subsidy and the Community Care Grant (where paid) is true and correct;
- that adequate provisions have been made for all future commitments; and
- salaries and allowances paid to people employed with the community care grant (where paid) are in accordance with award salary rates or the general rates in force at the institution.

Attached is a statement of any qualifications to this audited statement (please attach separate sheet if applicable).

|                     | <i>Independent accountant</i> | <i>Authorised officer of approved provider</i> |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>NAME</b>         |                               |  |
| <b>POSITION</b>     |                               |  |
| <b>TELEPHONE</b>    |                               |  |
| <b>SIGNATURE</b>    |                               |  |
| <b>DATE</b>         |                               |  |
| <b>ORGANISATION</b> |                               |  |

**Please note: if an authorised officer of your approved provider does not sign this certification, this acquittal form will be returned to your approved provider for correct certification.**

**SECTION C - STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE**

I ..... (name of authorised officer) being an authorised officer of **(Approved Provider)**....., state that in relation to **(Service)**....., **(Service ID Number)**....., for the financial year 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006:

- all subsidies and any community care grant received from the Department of Health and Ageing have been used for the provision of community aged care packages, and any community care grant has been used for the purpose described in the community care grant agreement
- all conditions included in the funding agreements with the Commonwealth of Australia in relation to the community aged care packages have been met, in particular:
  - financial records have been kept which will allow separate identification of the subsidy from other income and expenditure;
  - financial records have been kept which will allow separate identification of the community care grant (where paid) from other income and expenditure;
  - salaries and allowances paid to people employed with the subsidy and any community care grant are in accordance with award salary rates or the general rates in force in the organisation;
  - income derived from subsidies has been expended in the provision of community aged care packages;
  - relevant insurance is current at 30 June 2006, including:
    - public liability insurance of not less than \$10 million;
    - workers compensation insurance as required by State workers' compensation acts;
    - professional indemnity insurance of not less than \$5 million;
    - all other insurances in respect of any liability that may arise out of the provision of community aged care packages;
  - all superannuation payments for employees are current at 30 June 2006;
  - all sub-contracted or brokered services have been delivered in accordance with the requirements of the Aged Care Act 1997 and our funding agreement(s) with the Commonwealth for the provision of community aged care packages; and
  - all payments out of any community care grant monies have been correctly made and properly authorised and adequate control has been maintained over the incurring of liabilities in relation to any community care grant.

Attached is a statement giving details of any circumstances which mean the approved provider has not complied with the terms and conditions of the agreement(s) (please attach separate sheet if applicable).

.....  
(signature of authorised officer) (date)

Title:..... Tel:.....

# Annual Financial Accountability Report

For the year ending 30 June \_\_\_\_\_

## For Completion by Service Providers funded under:

- Assistance with Care and Housing for the Aged
- Carer Information Support Program
- Commonwealth Carelink Program
- Continence Aids Assistance Scheme
- Continence Outreach Project
  - ❖ funded under the National Continence Management Strategy
- Day Therapy Centres
- Dementia Support Program
- National Carer Counselling Program
- National Respite for Carers Program

**NOTE:**               Wherever the word “PROGRAM” is used in this template it refers to the above Australian government funded community care programs

## PART 1: PROVIDER DETAILS

**NOTE: complete once only**

### ***Provider Details***

Name of Provider Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Trading Name \_\_\_\_\_

ABN \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Contact Details***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_

State/Territory \_\_\_\_\_ Post code \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_

State/Territory \_\_\_\_\_ Post code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Funding Agreements and Schedules: \_\_\_\_\_

Details

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## PART 2: PROGRAM FUNDING

***NOTE: complete a separate Part 2 for each Department of Health and Ageing funding agreement and each schedule within each funding agreement***

### 2.1 PROGRAM DETAILS

Name of Australian Government Program \_\_\_\_\_

ID Number -  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current period/year under review \_\_\_\_\_

Date prepared \_\_\_\_\_

Name of service(s)  
\_\_\_\_\_



## 2.2 STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

### 2.2.1 PROGRAM INCOME

#### *Australian Government Program Funding*

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Australian Government subsidy funding                                | \$ _____        |
| Australian Government funding agreement – operational                | \$ _____        |
| Australian Government funding agreement – brokerage                  | \$ _____        |
| Australian Government funding agreement – reserve pool brokerage     | \$ _____        |
| Australian Government funding agreement – non-ongoing<br>_____       | \$ _____        |
| Interest received on Government funds                                | \$ _____        |
| Approved roll-over from previous year (refer to User Guide)<br>_____ | \$ _____        |
| User fees received   | \$ _____        |
| Other – please specify<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____                    | \$ _____        |
| <b>TOTAL AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT PROGRAM FUNDING</b>                   | <b>\$ _____</b> |

## 2.2.2 PROGRAM EXPENDITURE

### ***Direct Service Delivery Operating Costs***

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Salaries and wages   | \$ _____        |
| Premises expenses (incl. cleaning, rates, maintenance)   | \$ _____        |
| Rent (attributed)  | \$ _____        |
| Insurance (professional indemnity insurance)   | \$ _____        |
| Vehicle costs (incl. fuel, service, repairs, leasing, mileage allowances)                                  | \$ _____        |
| Travel (attributed) –<br>(incl. airfares, meals, accommodation & associated allowances)                    | \$ _____        |
| Professional development (attributed) –<br>(incl. staff training, subscriptions, organisation memberships) | \$ _____        |
| Client aids and equipment (incl. consumables, major equipment)   | \$ _____        |
| Brokered Services  | \$ _____        |
| _____  |                 |
| Other – please specify   | \$ _____        |
| <hr/>  |                 |
| <b>Total direct service delivery operating costs</b>   | <b>\$ _____</b> |

### ***Administration Costs***

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Salaries and wages   | \$ _____        |
| Rent (attributed)  | \$ _____        |
| Insurance (incl. public liability, buildings & contents)   | \$ _____        |
| Vehicle costs (incl. fuel servicing, repairs)  | \$ _____        |
| Travel (attributed) –<br>(incl. airfares, meals, accommodation & associated allowances)                    | \$ _____        |
| Professional development (attributed) –<br>(incl. staff training, subscriptions, organisation memberships) | \$ _____        |
| Accounting and Management fees   | \$ _____        |
| Capital purchase (building and/or land)  | \$ _____        |
| Consumables (stationary, office supplies)  | \$ _____        |
| Equipment (vehicles, IT, furniture, & office equipment)  | \$ _____        |
| Promotion (promotional items, media, exhibitions, travel expenses)   | \$ _____        |
| Other – please specify   | \$ _____        |
| <hr/>  |                 |
| <b>Total administration costs</b>  | <b>\$ _____</b> |

***Depreciation***

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Motor Vehicles                             | \$ _____            |
| Furniture, Fittings and computer equipment | \$ _____            |
| Other                                      | \$ _____            |
| <b>Total depreciation</b>                  | <b>\$ _____</b>     |
| <br><b>TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENDITURE</b>       | <br><b>\$ _____</b> |

**2.2.3 RECONCILIATION**

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Program Income                                     | \$ _____        |
| Less Program Expenditure                           | \$ _____        |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                                    | <b>\$ _____</b> |
| Less Approved Underspend / Plus Approved overspend | \$ _____        |
| <b>TOTAL UNDERSPEND / OVERSPEND</b>                | <b>\$ _____</b> |

## PART 3: ONE-OFF AND CAPITAL GRANTS

**NOTE: complete a separate Part 3 for each Department of Health and Ageing funding agreement and each schedule within each funding agreement**

### 3.1 ACQUITTAL OF ONE-OFF AND CAPITAL GRANTS

#### 3.1.1 INCOME

Total capital grant \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### 3.1.2 EXPENDITURE

Land and buildings \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Motor vehicles \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Equipment (service delivery) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Equipment (administration) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

IT (administration) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other – please specify \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Assets Expenditure \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL UNDERSPEND / OVERSPEND \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

## PART 4: PROVISION ACCOUNTS

NOTE: complete once only

### ***Staff Leave and entitlements***

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Provision account balance at beginning of period              | \$ _____ |
| Provision account deposits during the period                  | \$ _____ |
| - include staff on-costs                                      |          |
| Provision account expenditure during period (provide details) | \$ _____ |
| _____   |          |
| _____   |          |
| _____   |          |

**Provision account balance at end of period** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Equipment replacement***

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Provision account balance at beginning of period | \$ _____ |
| Provision account deposits at end of period      | \$ _____ |
| - include provisions for capital replacements    |          |
| Provision account expenditure (provide details)  | \$ _____ |
| _____  |          |
| _____  |          |
| _____  |          |

**Provision account balance at end of period** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## PART 5: EXPENSE ALLOCATION

NOTE: complete once only

### COST ALLOCATION METHOD

Method used to allocate expenses between programs and other activities.

The method used to allocate shared expenses between the various services is to be disclosed here.

For building related expenses, shared motor vehicles and shared staff please indicate the allocation method that best described the method used by the organisation for allocating that expense to each service. The methods are:

- **Percentage of revenue.** That is, spreading the costs according to the level of funding received.
- **Actual usage.** That is, based on objective statistics regarding actual usage, such as motor vehicle log books, square metres of the building occupied, etc.
- **Estimated usage.** That is, similar to actual usage except that the usage is based on an estimate rather than objective business statistics.
- **Other.** Provide details of other methods used.

|                                       | <u>Cost Allocation Method</u> | <u>Show workings</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| <u>Shared Motor Vehicles</u>          |                               |                      |
| <u>Shared Direct Service Delivery</u> |                               |                      |
| <u>Administration</u>                 |                               |                      |

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## PART 6: STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

NOTE: complete once only

*Assets*

|                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Cash</b>                      | \$ _____ |
| <b>Receivables (eg. debtors)</b> | \$ _____ |
| <b>Prepaid expenses</b>          | \$ _____ |
| <b>GST recoverable</b>           | \$ _____ |
| <b>Land and Buildings</b>        | \$ _____ |
| <b>Motor Vehicles</b>            | \$ _____ |
| <b>Other – please specify</b>    | \$ _____ |

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Total assets \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Liabilities*

|                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Payables (eg. creditors)</b>   | \$ _____ |
| <b>Accrued expenses</b>           | \$ _____ |
| <b>Grants received in advance</b> | \$ _____ |
| <b>Provisions</b>                 | \$ _____ |
| <b>GST payable</b>                | \$ _____ |
| <b>Other – please specify</b>     | \$ _____ |

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Total liabilities \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL EQUITY \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Comment regarding significant changes eg. Sold building and moved to rented premises*

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## CERTIFICATION OF AUDITED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

*(This certification verifies that the information provided is true and correct and should be signed by a person who is legally empowered to do so ie a qualified public accountant not being the approved provider).*

I/We hereby certify that the income and expenditure detailed in this audited statement of Income and Expenditure in respect of the \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Year is true and correct.

I/We also certify that adequate provision has been made for all future commitments and that this Statement has been prepared as required by the Department of Health and Ageing.

I/We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this Statement to any other person than the Service Provider and the Department of Health and Ageing.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Organisation \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Town \_\_\_\_\_  
State/Territory \_\_\_\_\_ Post \_\_\_\_\_  
code \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Qualifications (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** organisations may wish to attach a letter signed by their auditor in place of this certification. However, the letter must contain all of the above information in order for the FAR to be accepted.



## PART 7: STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

NOTE: complete once only

I \_\_\_\_\_ being an authorised officer of

\_\_\_\_\_ state that for the year or parts thereof of the \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Year certify

that:

The audited Statement of Income and expenditure is true and correct.

All grants and/or subsidies received from the Department of Health and Ageing have been used for activities associated with the provision of approved services.

All conditions included in the funding agreement with the Commonwealth of Australia in relation to the services have been met, in particular:

- Financial records have been kept which will allow separate identification of the grant/subsidy from other income and expenditure;
- Salaries and allowances paid to people employed with the grant/subsidy are in accordance with award salary rates or the general rates in force in the organisation;
- Public liability insurance of not less than \$10 million\* is current at 30 June 2006;
- Workers compensation insurance as required by State workers' compensation acts is current at 30 June 2006;
- Professional indemnity insurance of \$5 million is current at 30 June 2006;
- All other insurances in respect of any liability that may arise out of the provision of services are current at 30 June 2006;
- All superannuation payments for employees are current at 30 June 2006;
- All sub-contracted or brokered services have been delivered in accordance with the requirements of the Aged Care Act 1997 and/or our funding agreement with the Commonwealth; and
- Adequate provisions have been made for all future commitments.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title of authorised officer \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*Enter any items of non-compliance here:*

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-139

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: SECURING THE FUTURE OF AGED CARE FOR AUSTRALIANS

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) What is the number of new residents entering high care that will pay higher fees (from 20 March 2008)?
- b) In a document form, could the committee be provided with the modelling that informs the change in the high/low care ratio?
- c) What is the average fee increase for residents in 2010/11 in absolute and percentage terms?
- d) What percentage increase in funding does the announcement represent on an annual basis?

Answer:

- a) Under the changed income testing arrangements, fees in high and low care for:
  - pensioners whose pension is determined under the pension income test (about 93 per cent of pensioners) will not be affected by the changed arrangements;
  - pensioners whose pension is determined under the pension asset test (about 7 per cent of pensioners) will be lower under the changed arrangements;
  - about 45 per cent of self funded retirees entering permanent residential aged care will decrease, on average by \$5.30 per day; and
  - about 12 per cent of self funded retirees entering permanent residential aged care will increase, on average by \$6.02 per day.

Under the new accommodation fee arrangements:

- about half of new high care residents will pay more for their accommodation than would otherwise have been the case, with an average increase of \$1.74 per day;
  - about 21 per cent of new high care residents will pay less than they would have under current arrangements, with an average decrease of \$3.61 per day; and
  - about half of new low care residents will pay \$7.92 per day less than they would have under current arrangements.
- b) No. This material was prepared for consideration by the Cabinet.

- c) No existing resident's fees will rise as a result of the Australian Government's \$1.5 billion 'Securing the Future of Aged Care for Australians' package.

The average accommodation fee increase for residents in 2010-11 (across all residents who enter residential aged care from 20 March 2008) will be about \$2.20 per day or about 4 per cent.

- d) Over the four years from 2007-08, it is estimated that the residential aged care industry would have derived almost \$5.1 billion from accommodation fees (interest in accommodation bonds, retention amounts and accommodation charges) and accommodation subsidies (the concessional resident supplement and the pensioner supplement).

The Australian Government's \$1.5 billion 'Securing the Future of Aged Care for Australians' package will increase this revenue stream by \$755.6 million over the four years from 2007-08.

This equates to a 15 per cent increase over the four year period and a 20 per cent increase in 2010-11.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-141

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: COMPLAINTS (BATES)

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLUCAS asked:

- a) Did the Minister contact Ms Bates in October 2006 and suggest that it would be appropriate to leave everything until the findings of the determination hearing were made?
- b) Did the Minister indicate to Ms Bates that she'd have someone call her the following Monday and did this occur?
- c) What protections are there for workers in aged care providing evidence to a determination hearing?
- d) What avenues are available for a review of a determination if they are late in applying for a review?

Answer:

- a) Neither the department nor the current Minister for Ageing is aware of this.
- b) Neither the department nor the current Minister for Ageing is aware of this.
- c) There are no current protections under *The Aged Care Act 1997* or subordinate legislation for aged care workers providing evidence to a determination hearing. It should be noted, however, that there is no requirement to appear in person at a determination hearing. Evidence can be provided by way of a confidential written submission.
- d) Applications for a review of a determination must comply with timeframes outlined in the *Committee Principles 1997* (the Principles). Section 10.71 (2) of the Principles states:  
*The application must:*  
*(b) be received by the Commissioner within 14 days after the day when the person or body is given a copy of the determination.*

Ms Bates application for a review was received outside the legislative timeframe. There are no avenues to accept an application for review received outside the legislative timeframe.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-140

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: ACADEMIC RESEARCH APPEARING IN THE ADELAIDE ADVERTISER

Hansard Page: CA24

Senator Jan McLucas asked:

- a) Did the Minister receive a letter from the academic?
- b) When did the Minister's office first become aware of the research in the Adelaide Advertiser?

Answer:

- a) The previous Minister for Ageing received a brief email from Ms De Bellis and Ms Khoo on 23 February 2006 expressing general concern about aged care and indicating PhD research was underway. The correspondence was referred to the Residential Aged Care Abuse Taskforce in the Department and, in its response, the Department encouraged the writers to make contact with the Aged Care Complaints Resolution Scheme if they were aware of any specific instances of poor care. There is no record of any subsequent contact by the writers with the Scheme.
- b) It is the department's understanding that the office of the previous Minister for Ageing became aware of the outcomes of the research on 7 February 2007 through the article published in the Adelaide Advertiser.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-160

OUTCOME 5: Primary Care

Topic: ROUND THE CLOCK MEDICARE: INVESTING IN AFTER-HOURS GP SERVICES (IAHGPS) PROGRAM

Hansard Page: CA69

Senator Brown asked:

Can you provide some information on notice on who received those (supplementary grants) and the value of those grants?

Answer:

The following table provides the names of the organisations receiving the 49 supplementary grants funded in the 2005-06 round of the Round the Clock Medicare: Investing in After-Hours GP Services Program, and the value of these grants:

| <b>Name of organisation</b>                   | <b>Value of supplementary grant (GST exclusive)</b> |
|---|---|
| Ashgrove West Group Practice                  | \$98,095  |
| Australind Medical Centre Pty Ltd             | \$100,000   |
| Ballajura Medical Centre                      | \$100,000   |
| Bannockburn Surgery Pty Ltd                   | \$100,000   |
| Banora Village Medical Centre                 | \$100,000   |
| Berowra Family Medical Practice               | \$100,000   |
| Blackwood and District Community Hospital     | \$100,000   |
| Bridge Clinic - Murray Bridge SA              | \$43,000  |
| Bundaberg After Hours Medical Service Pty Ltd | \$100,000   |
| Camden GP After Hours Co-operative            | \$95,494  |
| Canning Division of General Practice          | \$90,909  |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Darwin After Hours Medical Service   | \$95,500  |
| Dubbo Plains Division of General Practice                                  | \$99,500  |
| Eastern Suburbs Medical Service  | \$100,000 |
| Eight to Eight Medical Centre  | \$100,000 |
| Family Care Medical Services (Aust) Pty Ltd                                | \$91,000  |
| Foster and Toora Medical Centres / BAFLIS Pty Ltd                          | \$100,000 |
| Geelong City Medical Centre  | \$100,000 |
| Gemini Medical Services Pty Ltd  | \$100,000 |
| Goulburn Valley Division of General Practice                               | \$100,000 |
| Gumeracha Medical Practice   | \$98,800  |
| Hamilton Medical Centre  | \$25,850  |
| Hazelbrook General Practice  | \$64,690  |
| Hepburn Health Service representing Daylesford After Hours Medical Service | \$100,000 |
| Hinchinbrook Healthcare  | \$90,909  |
| Kiama Medical Practice   | \$100,000 |
| Maffra Medical Group   | \$99,950  |
| Mallacoota Medical Centre  | \$100,000 |
| Mt Beauty Medical Centre Pty Ltd   | \$70,073  |
| Mt Hotham Medical Centre   | \$99,887  |
| Murray-Plains Division of General Practice                                 | \$71,900  |
| NM&IG Medical Pty Ltd  | \$100,000 |
| North West Slopes (NSW) Division of General Practice                       | \$85,699  |
| Orbost Regional Health   | \$97,184  |
| Otway Division of General Practice   | \$99,978  |
| Perth and Hills Division of General Practice                               | \$100,000 |
| Pittsworth Medical Centre  | \$71,760  |
| Point Lonsdale Medical Group (PLMG) Unit Trust                             | \$100,000 |

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Regency Medical Centre  | \$100,000 |
| South East Alliance of General Practice                             | \$100,000 |
| St George Division of General Practice                              | \$47,273  |
| St Mary's Medical Centre  | \$89,440  |
| Sydney Medical Service Co-operative Ltd                             | \$100,000 |
| Symbion Medical Centre Operations Pty Ltd (Forrest Family Practice) | \$100,000 |
| Tatura Medical Centre Pty Ltd                                       | \$100,000 |
| The Trustee for the Waikerie Medical Centre Unit Trust              | \$100,000 |
| Wangaratta After Hours Doctors Cooperative                          | \$98,658  |
| Western Australia Deputising Medical Service (Inc)                  | \$100,000 |
| WWEM Service Pty Ltd  | \$97,600  |



Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-034

OUTCOME 3: Access to Medicare

OUTCOME 5: Primary Care

Topic: MEDICARE ITEMS FOR NON-DIRECTIVE PREGNANCY SUPPORT COUNSELLING

Written Question on Notice

Senator Stott Despoja asked:

Does the training for GPs, and eligible psychologists, social workers and mental health nurses include information about available services?

Answer:

New Medicare items for the provision of non-directive pregnancy support counselling services were introduced on 1 November 2006.

To access these items, GPs, psychologists, social workers and mental health nurses must complete appropriate non-directive pregnancy counselling training. This training is available online through relevant GP and allied health professional national associations.

The packages offered by these associations include training materials and links to a broad range of information about government and non-government services, such as maternal, child and family support services, and Australian Government benefits.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-122

OUTCOME 3: ACCESS TO MEDICAL SERVICES, AND  
OUTCOME 5: PRIMARY CARE

Topic: ROUND THE CLOCK MEDICARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

Please provide data on expenditure by financial year to date on the Round the Clock Medicare package, compared to the original budgeted figures.

Answer:

The *Round the Clock Medicare: Investing in After-Hours GP Services* package has two components as follows:

- higher rebates for after-hours GP attendances;
- three new types of grant funding to after-hours GP services:
  - Operating Subsidies;
  - Start Up Grants; and
  - Supplementary Grants.

**Higher MBS rebates**

On 1 January 2005, higher Medicare rebates were introduced for after-hours GP attendances.

Thirty-two new after-hours items were created with a rebate \$10 higher than the corresponding items used during non after-hours periods. There are items for both vocationally recognised (VR) and non-VR GPs.

The rebate for the existing emergency after-hours GP items was also increased by \$10.

**Table 1 – Administered estimates and expenditure for higher rebates under *Round the Clock Medicare***

|                      | <b>2004/05</b> | <b>2005/06</b> |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                      | <b>\$m</b>     | <b>\$m</b>     |
| Original estimates*  | 42.1           | 83.8           |
| Actual expenditure** | 21.6           | 46.7           |

\* Includes Medicare flow-ons

\*\*For \$10 loading only, does not include flow-ons which can not be tracked

Expenditure is lower than budget estimates because:

- the actual number of after-hours GP attendances is lower than the volumes estimated in the original costings (prior to the introduction of the after-hours attendance items on 1 January 2005, there was limited data about the utilisation of after-hours GP services on a national basis);
- the original estimates included funding for Medicare flow-ons.

**Table 2 – Number of after-hours MBS attendances provided since January 2005**

|   | <b>2004/05</b> | <b>2005/06</b> |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Attendances*                            | 2,037,597      | 4,651,681      |
| Average number of attendances per month | 339,600        | 387,640        |

\* 6 months in 2004/05

By 30 June 2006, the average number of after-hours attendances being provided each month had increased by 14% since the higher after-hours rebates were introduced in January 2005 (though are lower than the volumes estimated in the costings).

### **Grant funding**

**Table 3 – Rephased administered allocation and expenditure for *Round the Clock Medicare* grant funding**

|                                   | <b>2004/05</b> | <b>2005/06</b> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                   | <b>\$m</b>     | <b>\$m</b>     |
| Allocation post approved rephases | 0.07           | 2.23           |
| Actual expenditure                | 0.07           | 2.23           |

The original estimates provided for *Round the Clock Medicare* grant funding have required rephasing to meet grant funding agreement commitments that fall into future years.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-005

OUTCOME 7: Hearing Services

Topic: HEARING SERVICES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Crossin asked:

Does the Department provide any funding (through this Outcome or others) for children's hearing checks?

Answer:

Yes. Community Service Obligation funds are provided to Australian Hearing to undertake, where appropriate, children's hearing checks.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee  
 ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
 HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 1 November 2006

Question: E06-068

OUTCOME 8: Indigenous Health

Topic: Healthy for Life – Indigenous Health

Hansard Page: CA80

Senator Evans, Christopher asked:

- a) How much Healthy for Life funding was spent in 2005-06?
- b) What is anticipated to be spent in 2006-07 and the out-years?

Answer:

a) A total of \$7.2 million Healthy For Life funding was spent in 2005-06.

b) Consistent with the four year Budget appropriation for the Healthy For Life measure (as adjusted in the 2006-07 Budget), it is anticipated that the following funding will be spent in 2006-07 and the out-years:

|                        | 2006-07<br>(\$m) | 2007-08<br>(\$m) | 2008-09<br>(\$m) |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Departmental Expenses: | 2.9              | 2.9              | 2.6              |
| Administered Expenses: | 21.4             | 27.6             | 36.8             |
| <b>Total:</b>          | <b>24.3</b>      | <b>30.5</b>      | <b>39.4</b>      |

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 14 February 2007

Question: E07-186

OUTCOME 8: Indigenous Health

Topic: ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

Hansard Page: CA 78

Senator Crossin asked:

So rather than me ask you what the features of the campaign are, can you provide the committee with copies of that?

Answer:

The following documents have been provided to the Committee;

- 1) Radio Advertisements on CD
- 2) First Press Advertisements
- 3) Technical Brochure
- 4) Letter Box Drop Brochure
- 5) General Brochure for all households

Secretariat note:

The documents are accessible at <http://www.health.gov.au/opalfuel>

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-063

OUTCOME 8: Indigenous Health

Topic: TRACHOMA ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE SURVEILLANCE

Hansard Page: CA71

Senator Crossin asked:

“Is the Menzies School of Health Research involved in that in any way or subcontracted to get involved in any way?”

Answer:

The department is not aware of any work that the Menzies School of Health Research is undertaking on antibiotic resistance.

As part of the contract with the Centre for Eye Research Australia, the National Trachoma Surveillance and Reporting Unit (Unit) that has been established, has the responsibility to monitor resistance to azithromycin in trachoma endemic areas.

At this stage the Unit has proposed liaising with the Australian Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (AGAR) which already conducts surveillance into the resistance of specific antimicrobials. This approach builds on and avoids duplication of surveillance work that AGAR has done in this area.

AGAR membership includes clinical microbiologists and laboratory scientists from 32 teaching hospitals and pathology service providers. Each state and territory is represented. Royal Darwin Hospital is the member for the Northern Territory.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-076

OUTCOME 8: Indigenous Health

Topic: BUDGET FOR ROLL-OUT OF *OPAL* FUEL IN ALICE SPRINGS

Hansard Page: CA78

Senator Crossin asked:

“In relation to the budget and projected expenditure, how much is budgeted and how much do you think you will spend? Wasn't \$10 million allocated as the subsidy?”

Answer:

The Australian Government has committed \$12 million to 2009-10 to support the roll-out of Opal fuel into Alice Springs. This subsidy is based on fuel consumption estimates supplied by the petrol companies involved. Actual expenditure will depend on the actual amount of fuel used in Alice Springs over the next three years.



Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-077

OUTCOME 8: Indigenous Health

Topic: MONITORING OF MEDIA IN ALICE SPRINGS IN REGARD TO THE ROLL-  
OUT OF *OPAL* FUEL

Hansard Page: CA79

Senator Siewert asked:

“How long will you be doing that for? Beyond the eight weeks, will you be continuing to do that monitoring?”

Answer:

The department has engaged a public relations consultant to assist with monitoring the media for the duration of the campaign. The department will continue to monitor the media once the campaign is finished.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-184

OUTCOME 8: Indigenous Health

Topic: *OPAL* FUEL ROLL-OUT COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN AND THE USE OF  
RADIO ADVERTISEMENTS

Hansard Page: CA78

Senator Crossin asked:

“I take it CAAMA Radio and ABC. What about 8HA?”

Answer:

The radio advertisements are being aired on CAAMA, 8HA, 8CCC, Top FM (Katherine/Tennant Creek) and 8SUN (Alice Springs).



Australian Government  
Private Health Insurance  
Administration Council

PHIAC Reference: 070214\_estimates\_gg

Mr Elton Humphery  
Committee Secretary  
Community Affairs Committee  
Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Humphery,

At the Senate Estimates hearing into the Department of Health and Ageing on Tuesday 13 February 2006, my organisation, the Private Health Insurance Administration Council, was asked to provide copies of our annual report on the private health insurance industry to the Committee by Senator McLucas.

Please find enclosed 10 copies of the report. Additional copies are available if required or directly from our web site at [www.phiac.gov.au](http://www.phiac.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

Gayle Ginnane  
Chief Executive Officer  
Private Health Insurance Administration Council

14 February 2007

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-173

OUTCOME 9: Private Health

Topic: MEMBERSHIP

Senator McLucas Asked:

I am not sure whether you will tell me I can have this information. Can you tell us what the growth in your young membership has been over time? This might compromise your business.

Answer:

Based on PHIAC data, Medibank Private's market share for persons aged 20-34 has grown 0.6% since September 2005.

| Quarter | Market share:<br>Hospital persons aged<br>20-34 |
|---------|---|
| Sep 00  | 28.6%   |
| Dec 00  | 28.2%   |
| Mar 01  | 28.5%   |
| Jun 01  | 29.0%   |
| Sep 01  | 29.0%   |
| Dec 01  | 29.0%   |
| Mar 02  | 29.2%   |
| Jun 02  | 28.8%   |
| Sep 02  | 28.3%   |
| Dec 02  | 27.8%   |
| Mar 03  | 27.6%   |
| Jun 03  | 25.9%   |
| Sep 03  | 25.6%   |
| Dec 03  | 25.4%   |
| Mar 04  | 25.7%   |
| Jun 04  | 25.0%   |
| Sep 04  | 24.7%   |
| Dec 04  | 24.5%   |
| Mar 05  | 24.6%   |
| Jun 05  | 24.1%   |
| Sep 05  | 24.0%   |
| Dec 05  | 24.1%   |
| Mar 06  | 24.5%   |
| Jun 06  | 24.3%   |
| Sep 06  | 24.4%   |
| Dec 06  | 24.6%   |

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-177

OUTCOME 9: Private Health

Topic: PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

Hansard Page: CA 87

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) Of the \$50 million or so included in the last budget for advertising the private health insurance extended choices program, how much was spent in 2005-06?
- b) Can you also indicate how much is committed in the forward estimates?

Answer:

See answer to E07-126.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-011

OUTCOME: 9: Private Health

Topic: POSSIBLE OVER-SERVICING OF PRIVATELY INSURED PATIENTS

Written question on notice

Senator Webber asked:

Has the department noticed any sign of possible over servicing of privately insured patients in respect to diagnostic investigatory procedures and/or surgical procedures since the introduction of the private health insurance premium rebate and increased cover of in-hospital medical fees gaps by private health funds? If so what action has the department and Medicare Australia taken to curb over servicing?

Answer:

The department is not aware of over-servicing of privately insured patients in relation to these procedures, and would be unable to make the clinical judgement necessary to assess whether these procedures were in fact required for particular privately insured patients.

The Professional Services Review (PSR) oversees the professional conduct of doctors providing services that attract benefits from the Medicare Benefits Scheme. The PSR has no access to information about the insurance status of patients of health professionals whose conduct may be examined under the PSR scheme. Referrals to PSR from Medicare Australia are based on Medicare Australia's analysis of individual providers, not on an assessment of particular procedures that may be performed by a range of providers.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-174

OUTCOME 9: Private Health

Topic: PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE BY ELECTORATE

Hansard Page: CA 81

Senator McLucas asked:

Can either the department or PHIAC provide any data on private health insurance coverage by electorate?

Answer:

The Private Health Insurance Administration Council (PHIAC) collects data at the state level, which cannot be used to derive electorate level information about PHI participation rates.

Medicare Australia does collect information at the postcode level, however the quality of the data produces unreliable statistics on PHI participation.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-175

OUTCOME 9: Private Health

Topic: HIGHER REBATES FOR OLDER AUSTRALIANS

Hansard Page: CA 84

Senator McLucas asked:

- (a) What is the cost of the 35 per cent and 40 per cent rebates for older Australians, both in dollar terms and as a proportion of the total expenditure on the private health insurance rebate?
- (b) Can the department provide any data on the number of older Australians who have taken out private health insurance since the higher rebates were introduced? Can you disaggregate it according to the 35 percent and 40 per cent rebate by age groups, gender or any other groups or definition?

Answer:

- (a) The 35 per cent and 40 per cent rebates (the higher rebates) were introduced on 1 April 2005. The dollar cost of the higher rebates (from their introduction until December 2006) is \$179 million. As a proportion of the total expenditure on the private health insurance rebate this represents 5.6 per cent.
- (b) Since the introduction of the higher rebates 94,464 people aged 65 and over have purchased private health insurance (1 April 2005 to December 2006). The higher rebates fall into age groups based on participation. The 35 per cent rebate applies to people aged 65-69. The 40 per cent rebate applies to people 70 and over. Further breakdown by rebate type and gender is provided in the table below. Rebate data is provided by the Private Health Insurance Administration Council (PHIAC). As this data does not contain any further detail, the department cannot breakdown this data into other groupings.



Table 1: People covered by private hospital insurance from period ending 31 March 2005 to period ending 31 December 2006.

| Rebate            | People Covered      |                |                  |                        |                |                  | Total Change  | % Change     |             |             |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
|                   | As at 31 March 2005 |                |                  | As at 31 December 2006 |                |                  |               | Male         | Female      | Total       |
|                   | Male                | Female         | Total            | Male                   | Female         | Total            |               |              |             |             |
| <b>35% Rebate</b> | 180,128             | 180,719        | <b>360,847</b>   | 198,060                | 198,229        | <b>396,289</b>   | 35,442        | 10.0%        | 9.7%        | <b>9.8%</b> |
| <b>40% Rebate</b> | 303,448             | 429,324        | <b>732,772</b>   | 337,197                | 454,597        | <b>791,794</b>   | 59,022        | 11.1%        | 5.9%        | <b>8.1%</b> |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>483,576</b>      | <b>610,043</b> | <b>1,093,619</b> | <b>535,257</b>         | <b>652,826</b> | <b>1,188,083</b> | <b>94,464</b> | <b>10.7%</b> | <b>7.0%</b> | <b>8.6%</b> |

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-176

OUTCOME 9: Private Health

Topic: PHI PARTICIPATION BY OLDER AUSTRALIANS

Hansard Page: CA 84

Senator McLucas asked:

- (a) What is the number of older Australians who have taken out private health insurance since the higher rebates were introduced?

Senator Moore asked:

- (b) Can you do gender as well? Exactly what can your database allow us to know?

Answer:

See answer to E07-175.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-126

OUTCOME 9: Private Health

Topic: PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

Hansard Page: CA 87

Senator Evans asked:

- a) Of the \$50 million or so included in the last budget for advertising under the 'Private health insurance - enhanced choices' measure, how much was expended in 2005-06?
- b) Can you also indicate how much is committed in the forward estimates?

Answer:

- a) None. Funding was appropriated in the 2006-07 Budget.
- b) A range of measures is to be funded from the \$50.383 million. A breakdown of the \$50.383 million is shown below (in \$ millions):

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Communication campaign   | 19.100        |
| Private Health Insurance Rebate (estimated increased expenditure)  | 27.781        |
| Australian Taxation Office (additional resourcing)   | .661          |
| Establishment new private health consumer website  | 1.435         |
| Medicare Australia (direct mail-out advising affected Australians that they are approaching Lifetime Health Cover deadlines) | .684          |
| Development and implementation of standard information on private health insurance products (departmental resourcing)        | .722          |
| <b>Total 'Private health insurance – enhanced choices' initiative</b>  | <b>50.383</b> |

\$19.1 million was allocated for the private health insurance communication campaign. This includes \$18.1 million in administered monies, for campaign development and funding, and \$1 million for departmental resourcing.

Expenditure on the communication campaign to 13 March 2007 is \$235,971 (GST exclusive). This was for developmental and concept research.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-161

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: COAG PROGRAMS

Hansard Page: CA 99

Senator McLucas asked:

It would be useful, I think, if we had something from you, other than going through 13 programs and going tick, tick, tick; if we could get on notice the name of the program, the status, what stage you are with developing evaluation mechanisms and the anticipated process that you are going to use? That would seem to be a better use of the time?

Answer:

The attached progress report (Attachment A) provides an update on all measures the department is implementing as part of the Australian Government's mental health package, as well as the related consultation mechanisms and monitoring and evaluation activities.

Australian Government Mental Health Package  
*Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) Progress Report*

**BRIEF OVERALL STATUS**

DoHA is continuing to consult and finalise implementation arrangements for the initiatives it has responsibility for implementing. Most initiatives have now commenced, and tender processes are underway. Implementation timeframes remain as per specified in the *COAG National Action Plan on Mental Health (2006 – 2011)*, and milestones are being considered. Further information is available at [www.health.gov.au/coagmentalhealth](http://www.health.gov.au/coagmentalhealth).

**SPECIFIC ACTIONS / PROGRESS ON INITIATIVES**

- **Expanding Suicide Prevention Programs (\$62.4 million)**
  - Negotiations have been completed with ninety-five percent of the 46 community based projects, which were announced on 12 October 2006. The two remaining projects (five percent) are currently being finalised.
  - The Department is currently reviewing the committee membership under the National Suicide Prevention Strategy. New membership arrangements will be in place from 1 July 2007, as membership under the current structure is due to expire on 30 June 2007.
  - The National Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan, which is being re-developed, will guide the Department's suicide prevention activities for the next five years. The Strategic Plan will be considered at the meeting of the National Advisory Council on Suicide Prevention on 20 March 2007.
  
- **Alerting the Community to Links between Illicit Drugs and Mental Illness (\$21.6 million)**
  - A national campaign to increase awareness of the links between illicit drug use and mental health and to encourage individuals and families to seek help or treatment is being developed in 2006/07 for implementation in early 2008.
  - A two-stage market research program investigating levels of awareness, knowledge and attitudes towards illicit drug use and mental health problems is informing the development of the campaign. The first stage of research, an in-depth qualitative study, has been completed and key findings are now being measured through a national quantitative survey of young people aged 15-30 and parents of children in this age range. This study will be finalised in March 2007.
  - To date, advice on the campaign's strategic approach has been provided through a series of consultations with the Australian National Council on Drugs and will be augmented by discussions with a variety of experts in the mental health sector.
  - Up to date evidence on mental illness and illicit drug comorbidity will also inform the campaign approach and messages. This will be provided through an update of the *Illicit Drug Use in Australia: Epidemiology, Use Patterns and Associated Harms* monograph by the National Drugs and Alcohol Research Centre. A draft report has been completed and will be finalised in March 2007.

- **Support for Day-to-Day living in the Community (\$46.0 million)**
  - The identification of sites suitable for locating the D2DL program is now complete. Identification was undertaken by States and Territories based on need for service and the existence of complementary clinical and social/welfare services.
  - Advertising for providers in selected sites occurred in national newspapers on Saturday 17 February 2007 and is due to be advertised again on 24 February 2007. Applications close on Tuesday 20 March.
  - Key stakeholders were advised in advance of the advertising.
  - Information and documentation is available on the Department's website via [www.health.gov.au/tenders](http://www.health.gov.au/tenders) and a dedicated email and phone line have been established for inquiries (1300 887 745 or [daytodayliving@health.gov.au](mailto:daytodayliving@health.gov.au))
  - Funding will be allocated according to need, but broadly allocated on the AHMAC formula (to make sure other sites are not disadvantaged).
  
- **Better Access to Psychiatrists, Psychologists and General Practitioners through the Medicare Benefits Schedule (\$538.0 million)**
  - This measure commenced on 1 November 2006, when new Medicare Benefits Schedule items for general practitioners, psychiatrists, clinical psychologists and other appropriately trained allied mental health professionals were introduced.
  - Uptake of the new items has been positive. For November and December 2006 (60,909 claims were processed for the new GP Mental Health Care Plan item.
  - More detailed information on the new MBS items can be found at [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au) by using the A-Z Index, go to M for 'Mental Health Care – GP Medicare Items'
  - Consultations with key stakeholders were completed in January 2007 and Assistant Minister Pyne approved an education and training framework on 15 February 2007. The department is now considering activities to enable the implementation of the education and training component of the Better Access initiative and will continue to work closely with stakeholders.
  
- **New Funding for Mental Health Nurses (\$191.6 million)**
  - This measure will commence in July 2007. Negotiations with the key professional organisations are already underway to set in place arrangements for credentialing mental health nurses to participate in the scheme.
  - Business rules for the implementation of this initiative have been developed in consultation with Medicare Australia. Note: Medicare Australia will be the payments agency for this measure however it is not an MBS payment.
  - The Department has met with the Australian General Practice Network and the Mental Health Professional Associations Group (which includes the Australian Psychological Society, the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, and the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses) to discuss how this measure could be implemented.
  
- **Improved services for people with drug and alcohol problems and mental illness (\$73.9 million)**
  - A small Expert Reference Group (ERG) has been established to provide advice on the implementation of the measure, including identifying priorities for funding under the National Comorbidity Initiative component of the measure. To date, the ERG has met twice (November 2006 and February 2007).
  - In addition to the ERG, a one-off discussion forum with peak state/territory non-government organisation (NGO) representatives, and other key NGO representatives and academics was held on 4 December 2006 to identify a suite of tools and resources

that could be included as part of the measure and made available to alcohol and drug services for the management of clients with drug and alcohol problems and mental illness.

- The outcomes of this Discussion Forum were provided to the ERG and have assisted the ERG in their considerations and recommendations to the Department on the key principles in implementing this measure. The Department is currently working with the ERG to finalise these principles and the underpinning activities.
  - As part of the consultation phase, the Department has invited the Clinical Directors of the National Mental Health Standing Committee and the Health officials of the Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs to a meeting regarding this measure on 21 March 2007. It is important that any approach taken by the Australian Government to implementing this measure builds on and complements the work that is currently being undertaken by individual jurisdictions.
  - Capacity building grants process for non-government drug and alcohol treatment services does not commence until 1 July 2007.
- **Mental Health Services in Rural and Remote Areas (\$51.7 million)**
    - The Prime Minister launched this measure on 9 October 2006.
    - The Department held discussions with jurisdictions regarding phase one of this measure. The Department asked jurisdictions to identify where they would consider their geographical areas of highest need/unmet demand to be, as well as to identify potential auspice organisations that could deliver the services.
    - The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing approved the approach for phase one of the measure on 28 November 2006.
    - An Expert Forum was held on 30 November 2006 to start to scope possible solutions to getting viable mental health services into rural and remote Australia where there is little capacity and such services do not exist.
    - Potential auspice organisations have been invited to submit funding proposals and we expect to have contracts in place and services running in the next few months.
- **Telephone Counselling, Self Help and Web-based Support Programmes (\$56.9 million)**
    - An announcement of the offer of funding for \$18 million for Lifeline Australia to expand its telephone counselling services was made on 12 October 2006. A Funding Agreement was signed on 20 December 2006.
    - A Funding Agreement has been offered to BoysTown (Kids Help Line) regarding funding to support their telephone counselling and web based services.
    - Health Outcomes International was engaged on 22 December 2006 to conduct a formative evaluation (including environmental scan) to inform the future delivery of the COAG Telephone Counselling, Self Help and Web-Based Support Programmes measure. The final report has been submitted and is currently being reviewed. A draft design paper for the remaining parts of this measure will be developed by early March 2007.
    - Dialogue is continuing with National Health Call Centre Network Implementation Team to ensure there is synergy between these measures
- **Improving the capacity of workers in Indigenous communities (\$20.8 million)**
    - Recipients of the five additional Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarships for mental health for the 2007 academic year were advised that they were successful in December 2006.
    - A contract with Orygen Research Centre was signed in February 2007 to deliver a culturally adapted version of the mental health first aid course. The Department will

support 120 instructor scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people employed by Australian Government funded Indigenous specific health services to deliver the two day mental health first aid course.

- The Community Services & Health Industry Skills Council (CSH&ISC) will develop a training package (including stabilisation and referral; drug and alcohol interventions; suicide interventions; and grief and loss interventions) for the existing workforce and will align it with the current Aboriginal Health Worker competencies development. The contract was signed in November 2006 and the package will be developed by June 2007.
  - Approval of the locations of the ten mental health workers has been sought. The sites for the five houses have also been identified. Negotiations between the OATSIH State and Territory Offices and the successful services will shortly commence.
  - The tender for the Indigenous mental health textbook closed on 30 January 2007.
  - The tender for the Mental Health Multi Media Resource will close on 19 February 2007.
  - The request for tender to develop and/or adapt mental health assessment tools is currently being finalised. This tender will be advertised in the national media in March/ April 2007.
  - The first OATSIH Expert Reference Group meeting will be held in Canberra on 13 March 2007.
- **Increased funding for the Mental Health Council of Australia (\$1.0 million)**
    - This measure was implemented from 1 July 2006 through funding arrangements under the Community Sector Support Scheme.
- **New early intervention services for parents, children and young people (\$28.1 million)**
    - Work is underway to develop resources to support early childhood workers within this measure. Consultations with key stakeholders have commenced across government departments (FaCSIA, DEWR, DEST). These consultations will continue with external stakeholders including the Australian Psychological Society, beyondblue, and the Australian Principals Association Professional Development Council on March 1 2007 and 2 April 2007.
    - Early discussions have indicated a strong interest from state and territory governments in this measure and the linkages between this and some of their own initiatives. Future workshops are planned with state and territory governments commencing in March 2007.
- **Additional education places, scholarships and clinical training in mental health (\$103.5 million)**
    - The Prime Minister announced on 14 July that 210 clinical psychology places and 431 mental health nursing places had been offered to universities. The places have been included in universities' 2007 funding agreements.
    - Detailed planning is underway for the scholarship and expanding psychiatric training options. Representatives from the Department met with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) on 14 February 2007 to discuss implementation of expanded specialist training arrangements. The Department has also requested the College provide advice regarding accredited psychiatry training places outside of public teaching hospitals.
    - The RANZCP sought funding to implement its proposal to undertake structural reform of psychiatric training over 5 years. Improvements sought include facilitating competency based training, increasing flexibility of training for part-timers and



trainees with interrupted training, higher trainee pass rates, and expanding options for lateral entry to the speciality, particularly for overseas-trained doctors.

- A peak organisation to manage scholarships has been selected. The Department will work closely with this organisation to finalise guidelines and application procedures.

- **Mental health in tertiary curricula (\$5.6 million)**

- Liaison is continuing with the Mental Health Nurse Education Taskforce (MHNET) to identify core mental health components of nursing pre-registration courses. Meetings are held monthly with the next meeting scheduled for 28 February 2007.
- A report on the outcomes of the MHNET project is expected to be completed by March for comment by the AHMAC Mental Health Workforce Advisory Committee and the Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery.
- Detailed planning is underway to enhance the mental health component in undergraduate courses for other health professions and discussion with accreditation authorities is underway.

## CONSULTATION MECHANISMS

To support linkages and information exchange between and within portfolios, DoHA has established a range of mechanisms to ensure effective communication on the progress of measures being implemented under the Australian Government's Mental Health Package.

Internal and inter-agency arrangements include, for instance:

- DoHA chairs a *COAG Mental Health Implementation Interdepartmental Committee* (IDC) which includes representatives from all agencies with responsibility for implementing measures under the broader package (i.e. DoHA, FaCSIA, DEWR, DEST) as well as representatives from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, The Treasury and Centrelink.
- A *DoHA Implementation Working Group* meets regularly to ensure communication and information exchange between all program areas in the Department that are progressing measures.

In addition, a number of other arrangements have been put in place for consultation and communication with external stakeholders. For example:

- DoHA has established a *COAG Mental Health Stakeholder Reference Group* to provide sector-representative advice, as requested, on the planning and implementation of measures being implemented by the Department. The Reference Group first met on 27 November 2006, and will meet again in March and then May 2007.
- The Australian Government, through the IDC, is developing a *new mental health website* that will be used as a resource that maps COAG and non-COAG mental health and related programs being progressed by the Australian Government. It will provide a central and easy access point for interested groups seeking funding for various projects, and will also provide an information platform for parliamentarians. DoHA is the lead agency coordinating the development of the website, which is expected to be finalised in July 2007.

## EVALUATION AND MONITORING

Action is underway within the Australian Government at three levels:

- Development of approaches to evaluation of individual Australian Government measures.
- Development, through the IDC, of a standard template across Australian Government departments to support regular monitoring of the implementation of all measures. This

will ensure that consistent questions are asked. A sub-group has been established to support this process.

- The Australian Government is taking the lead in conjunction with states and territories to support a process for annual reporting through Health Ministers to COAG on the progress of implementation of the COAG Action Plan. This is taking place through the Mental Health Standing Committee.

COAG agreed to a five-year evaluation of the COAG Action Plan. The results of individual evaluations, particularly of larger measures such as the Better Access program, together with annual reports provided through Health Ministers, will be likely to support this evaluation.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-130

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: DISTRICTS OF WORKFORCE SHORTAGE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

Is the Bay Islands Medical Service in Queensland currently the subject of a workforce shortage determination?

How long has this determination been in place? How many times has this determination been renewed?

Answer:

The Bay Islands Medical Service on Russell Island is located within the statistical local area of Redland (S) Balance, and is currently considered to be a district of workforce shortage.

The district of workforce status for Russell Island has been in place since the second quarter of 2005. The Medicare billing statistics which are used to determine the district of workforce status is updated on a quarterly basis.

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-162

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: AREAS OF WORKFORCE SHORTAGE

Hansard Page: CA 106

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) I do not know what the trigger for the change is, but on notice, could you give me a list of each of the areas of workforce shortage for 2006 so that I can work out where the changes are?
- b) I was hoping to get the four quarters of 2006. Are they done on a standard quarterly basis, so end of March and end of June?
- c) What are the trigger dates?
- d) Can we have the data in both forms (area of workforce shortage in text and maps)?

Answer: (A) to (D) inclusive

**Areas of workforce shortage**

Areas of workforce shortage (AOWS) statistics are prepared on a quarterly basis covering the periods; 1 January – 31 March, 1 April – 30 June, 1 July – 30 September and 1 October – 31 December.

AOWS are calculated at the Statistical Local Area (SLA) level. The population to full-time equivalent (FTE) general practitioner ratio at the SLA level is used to establish AOWS, when compared to the national average.

*Derivation of population data*

The latest published Estimated Resident Population (ABS Catalogue No. 3218.0) is used to derive population data at the SLA level. Where SLAs form natural groupings across a locality, the SLAs are grouped to form collections of contiguous SLAs or aggregated to a larger statistical region to better reflect area catchments.

## **SLA data**

There are over 1400 individual SLAs. Rather than supply this amount of information for each quarter of 2006, an analysis of change in eligibility over calendar year 2006 is provided below:

- 91% (1281) of SLAs did not change eligibility status during 2006;
- of the remaining 9% (123) of SLAs that had a change in status over the year, 46% (57) of them are currently eligible; and
- as at the December quarter 2006, 65% (922) of SLAs are AOWS.

Given the large number of SLAs, it is not practical to illustrate AOWS changes in a simple map format.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-164

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: OVERSEAS TRAINED DOCTORS

Hansard Page: CA 107

Senator McLucas asked:

I wonder, Mr Dennis, if you could further on notice subdivide the refused figure into refused and then refused again, and refused but then approved?

Answer:

For the period February 2006 to January 2007, a total of 437 exemptions were rejected with 127 applications for a reconsideration of the original decision received. Of the 127 applications requesting reconsideration, 80 had their original decision overturned with the remaining 47 upheld.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-165

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: WORKFORCE SHORTAGE DETERMINATION

Hansard Page: CA 109

Senator McLucas asked:

Can you tell me if the Bay Islands Medical Service in Queensland is currently the subject of a workforce shortage determination? I just want a snapshot of where it is in the process.

Answer:

The Bay Islands Medical Service on Russell Island is located within the statistical local area of Redland (S) Balance, and is currently considered to be a district of workforce shortage.

The Bay Islands are also considered an outer metropolitan location.

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-166

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: GP POPULATION RATIOS

Hansard Page: CA 109

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) You collect GP to population ratios by SLA?
- b) What is that data?
- c) Is it GP visits?
- d) What are you collecting?

Answer Parts a) to d) inclusive:

The population to Full-time Equivalent (FTE) general practitioner ratio uses published Estimated Resident Population (ABS Catalogue No. 3218.0) figures at the Statistical Local Area (SLA) level. Where SLAs form natural groupings across a locality, the SLAs are grouped to form collections of contiguous SLAs or aggregated to a larger statistical region to better reflect area catchments.

SLAs are used to define areas because SLAs are the smallest geographic unit for which annual population figures are available. The Australian Bureau of Statistics publishes annual population figures for SLAs on an Estimated Resident Population basis (ERP) as at 30 June of each year.

In using the Medicare billing statistics, the Department of Health and Ageing uses a full time equivalent measure, which takes into account Medicare billing in the area irrespective of whether or not local doctors are working in a part time or a full time capacity.



Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-167

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: MEDICARE BILLING

Hansard Page: CA 110

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) Is there a set of data available on Medicare billing?
- b) Could you provide the website address for access to this data?

Answer:

- a) Yes.
- b) Information is available on the Department of Health and Ageing website at <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/Medicare+Statistics-1>  
The Medicare statistics on this website contain summary data relating to Medicare for the latest quarter, together with data for earlier quarters and financial years.  
A range of Medicare billing information is available on the Medicare Australia website at [http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/providers/health\\_statistics/statistical\\_reporting.shtml](http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/providers/health_statistics/statistical_reporting.shtml)

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-168

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: DENTAL WORKFORCE

Hansard Page: CA 111

Senator McLucas asked:

What do we know about the dental workforce in Australia? If you could point us to appropriate places to look for that data, that would be helpful?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Ageing does not collect any data on dental workforce. The department relies on third party information.

The following websites may provide some further information:

- Australian Dental Association - <http://www.ada.org.au> and;
- Australian Research for Population Oral Health - <http://www.arcpoh.adelaide.edu.au>

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-132

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: GP AND OTHER WORKFORCE DATA BY ELECTORATE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

Please provide data on current GP: population ratios by federal electorate?

Answer:

Federal electorate level data by GP: population ratio is not utilised for the determination of district of workforce shortage status and as such is not part of the range of data utilised by the department on a routine basis. The department is currently investigating the possibility of producing these statistics on an annual basis.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-169

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: MORE DOCTORS FOR OUTER-METRO AREAS PROGRAM

Hansard Page: CA 111

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) I understand PricewaterhouseCoopers was engaged last year to do an evaluation of the More Doctors for Outer-Metro Area program, is that right?
- b) Is it possible for the Committee to have a copy of that review?
- c) Could we have an analysis of the findings? It is important for the Committee to understand how successful that program was.

Answer:

- a) PricewaterhouseCoopers was engaged in 2005 to undertake a lapsing program evaluation of the More Doctors for Outer Metropolitan Areas Measure.
- b) The department does not generally release lapsing program reports to third parties as they are created for the purpose of Cabinet deliberations and are treated as Cabinet in Confidence. A summary of the findings is provided in response to part c) below in lieu of the evaluation report.
- c) The More Doctors for Outer Metropolitan Areas Measure comprises four programs, namely the:
  - Outer Metropolitan [Relocation Incentive Grant](#) Program;
  - Outer Metropolitan Other Medical Practitioners Program (a retention program);
  - Outer Metropolitan Registrars Program; and
  - Outer Metropolitan Specialist Trainees Program.

An analysis of the findings is provided below for the Measure as a whole. The key findings have been addressed using the main terms of reference of a lapsing program, that is, appropriateness; effectiveness; and efficiency.

### Appropriateness

Overall, the evaluation found the Measure to be appropriate given that there were medical workforce shortages in outer metropolitan areas. As the Measure offered a variety of ways of addressing this shortage, the evaluation found that there was a continuing need for the Measure.

The evaluation also found that there is a need for greater consultation with stakeholders in the development and implementation of policy around the Measure in future and a better definition of eligible locations under the Measure. The definition of eligible locations was simplified with the re-launch of the Measure in July 2006.

### Effectiveness

The evaluation found that all the programs under the Measure were effective in attracting doctors to outer metropolitan areas. The Measure had exceeded its original target of 150 additional doctors practising in outer metropolitan areas over four years.

As at 30 June 2005, 236 doctors had been approved or approved in principle to relocate to outer metropolitan practices through the grants program. An additional 57 non-vocationally recognised doctors remained in outer metropolitan practices through the Measure's retention incentives. In addition, 15 specialist trainees had received training and 384 GP registrar placements had been filled under the Measure between 2002 and 2005.

The financial relocation incentives available were most attractive to those not completely settled, those who have recently gained their Fellowship, or those on the fringe areas for whom relocation was not far. To consider moving, established doctors generally required greater incentives. The grant amount was increased in the 2006 Budget and promotion of the grant has been scaled up.

The programs based on training placements have enhanced the experience of trainees, exposing them to a broader range of clinical practice. This was of particular value for the specialist trainees, whose training is otherwise almost entirely public hospital based, yet increasingly their clinical practice is occurring in the private sector.

The quality of training provided in some GP registrar placements was raised as a source of concern, and there was support for more resources for practices training registrars. These placements occur as part of the General Pathway of the Australian General Practice Training Program.

There was strong support for the medical specialist trainees program among the specialist colleges, but take up of the program to date was very low. This was attributed to the financial assistance offered not being considered adequate. The financial assistance available has since been increased.

### Efficiency

The evaluation found that, over the period, the management and control of the Measure's input costs to output costs were efficient. The evaluation did find that the administrative costs were relatively high during the initial stages of the Measure which were indicative of the activities involved in program start-up. However, over the years, the Measure's departmental costs remained relatively constant while output (as measured by administered costs) doubled.

In the course of exceeding its original targets, considerably less financial allocations were spent in the implementation of the Measure. This is because of the introduction of new program elements (in particular, the Relocation Incentive Grant), which were more cost effective than others which they replaced.

The evaluation found that there is a need for greater promotion of the various programs under the measure in future. As part of this, there needs to be better communication and information flows between the Department of Health and Ageing and key stakeholders such as Divisions of General Practice.

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-163

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: OVERSEAS TRAINED DOCTORS

Hansard Page: CA 107

Senator McLucas asked:

- a) For the year ending February 2006 to January 2007, 3,476 applications for exemptions were received?
- b) Can you tell me how many exemptions were granted, and refused and how many exemptions were rejected?

Answer:

- a) As at 31 January 2007 (point in time data) 3,476 overseas trained doctors (OTDs) with Medicare provider number restrictions held current exemptions to access the Medicare Benefits Scheme.

For the period February 2006 to January 2007, a total of 5,261 applications for exemptions were processed. One application constitutes a request for one exemption under section 19AB of the (*Health Insurance Act 1973*) although an exemption may relate to one or more practice locations. An OTD may also apply for more than one exemption over a period of time.

- b) For the period of February 2006 to January 2007, 4,852 exemptions were approved and 437 exemptions were rejected (5,289 exemptions in total). Note: the discrepancy between the latter figure (5,289) and 5,261 cited in a) above, is that some applications, in seeking the one exemption approval for several practice locations, may have some practice locations approved and some not approved. These are recorded as both an approved exemption and a rejected exemption, thereby counting as two for the one exemption application.

*Example 1: standard application – one location*

Dr V seeks an exemption to practice at location W. If approved, this constitutes one exemption approval.

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-170

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: WORKFORCE PROGRAMS

Hansard Page: CA 112

Senator McLucas asked:

Could the department provide a list of all reviews and analyses that it has done in the last 12 months on workforce programs, including if possible a summary of the results or major findings of each of those reviews?

Answer:

The following reviews and analyses were undertaken in the last 12 months on workforce programs:

- Rural Retention Program - Review of the Rural Retention Program (Gibbon and Hales), December 2006 (summary of findings at Attachment A); and
- Review and Revision of the Section 19AB Guidelines (Eleanor Long), July 2006 (summary of recommendations at Attachment B).

*Example 2: standard application – multiple locations*

Dr V seeks an exemption to practice at locations W, X, Y & Z. If all locations approved, this constitutes one exemption approval.

*Example 3: standard application – multiple locations*

Dr V seeks an exemption to practice at location W, X, Y & Z. If W and X locations are approved, and Y and Z locations rejected, this constitutes one exemption approval and one exemption rejection.



## Attachment A - Summary of Findings - Review of the Rural Retention Program

The Rural Retention Program (RRP) is an ongoing program, which seeks to provide financial incentives for doctors providing primary care in rural and remote areas, so designated under the GPARIA Classification

To become eligible, a doctor must serve an initial qualifying period (the length of the qualifying period is determined by the category of the location where they practice). Once eligible, they can receive a payment a minimum of every twelve months. Amounts are based on location and the level of service they provide. There are 5 eligible categories (A to E) applicable to the Program, with category A representing the least remote areas and category E representing the most remote areas.

### *Payment Structure for the Rural Retention Program*

| <b>Retention Payment Category</b> | <b>Qualifying Period</b> | <b>Maximum annual payment rate</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| A                                 | 6 years                  | \$5,000                            |
| B                                 | 5 years                  | \$10,000                           |
| C                                 | 3 years                  | \$15,000                           |
| D                                 | 2 years                  | \$20,000                           |
| E                                 | 1 year                   | \$25,000                           |

The Rural Retention Program has two parts:

- The Central Payments System (CPS) eligibility is automatically assessed based on Medicare and DVA data held by Medicare Australia on doctors' services and locations. No application process is required. Those doctors who qualify under the CPS receive advice from Medicare Australia seeking relevant information to process their payment. Once qualified, they continue to receive further payments subject to fulfilling the eligibility criteria.
- The Flexible Payments System (FPS) caters for doctors who are not billing Medicare, those working in Aboriginal Medical Services, the Royal Flying Doctor Service, or as state-salaried doctors. Through various communication strategies, Rural Workforce Agencies (RWAs) invite doctors who they deem to be eligible, to apply through this avenue.

The Review was undertaken in 2006 by Peter Gibbon and Jim Hales to examine the effectiveness, appropriateness and efficiency of the RRP.

The following is a summary of the findings of the Review

- There has been a steady increase in the number of doctors receiving the Rural Retention payment from 1,713 in 1999-2000 to 1,990 in 2004-05;
- The program is seen by grant recipients and stakeholders as a relatively effective retention strategy;
- The administration of the Central Payments System component of the program by Medicare Australia is seen as efficient, and the administration of the Flexible Payments System by rural workforce agencies is also seen as efficient and critical to the success of the system;
- RRP is widely regarded as an appropriate mechanism for supporting the objective of retaining rural and remote GPs;

- There is widespread support for the program and general satisfaction with the manner in which it functions. There is scope to amend and simplify some of the eligibility criteria;
- Broadly, the Review found that the program contributes to the retention of rural and remote GPs, with a key impact being on GP morale, rather than the quantum of funds made available;
- The Review notes that cessation of the program would have an impact on rural and particularly remote GPs, such as bringing forward retirement or GPs renegotiating remuneration packages. Such a move would also severely impact on GP morale; and
- The Review recommends the development and implementation of an ongoing evaluation strategy, including the development and collection of baseline data.

## **Attachment B - Summary of Recommendations – Review and revision of the Section 19AB Guidelines**

Section 19AB of the *Health Insurance Act 1973* (the Act) was introduced on 1 January 1997 and restricts access to the Medicare benefits arrangements by overseas trained doctors for a minimum period of ten years. The legislation allows for exemptions to this restriction if the doctor undertakes to work in a district of workforce shortage.

When making determinations to grant or reject applications for exemptions to the Medicare provider number restrictions as encompassed by section 19AB of the Act, the Department refers to the ‘Section 19AB Guidelines’.

Section 19AB of the Act (and the Guidelines) was introduced at a time when a number of areas in Australia (primarily metropolitan areas) were considered to have an over supply of medical practitioners. The Guidelines at that time were used to ensure overseas trained doctors did not access the Medicare benefits arrangements in positions which could be filled by Australian trained doctors.

The Guidelines were updated in 2001 to acknowledge the need for overseas trained doctors to help meet the increasing need for medical practitioners in rural areas of Australia. The Guidelines have not been updated since that time.

The review of the Section 19AB Guidelines was undertaken in 2006 by Dr Eleanor Long, a medical education consultant to examine the appropriateness and validity of the Guidelines within the current environment of widespread medical workforce shortages.

### **Recommendations of the Review**

The key recommendation of Dr Long’s report was that the Guidelines undergo major revision. Dr Long recommended that the revision should:

1. Improve the validity of the Guidelines through clarifying ‘need’ in medical services in Australia involving:
  - identifying the key factors underlying need in medical services in Australia;
  - relating these factors to the issues that are impacting on applications for exemption; and
  - developing criteria to succinctly describe need.

The criteria developed in the report addressed specifically general practitioner service provision.

2. Improve the reliability of the Guidelines through the development of an assessment tool, structured to reflect the criteria developed, enabling consistent application of the criteria in each and every claim for exemption eligibility.
3. Revise the class exemption clauses applying to:
  - academic appointments at ten Australian universities, in the light of the establishment of new medical schools in Australia; and
  - other class exemptions.

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-008

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: DENTAL

Written Question on Notice

Senator Webber asked:

- a) Given that the Australian Government is now responsible for the provision of almost half of all the expenditure on dental services, does the department undertake regular reviews of the efficiency and effectiveness of its dental services in improving the overall dental health status of the Australian population? If so, when was the most recent review conducted and what were its conclusions?
- b) If not, why not?

Answer:

- a) The Australian Government does not provide or fund dental services directly (except in the limited cases of dental care for war veterans, full-time and part-time members of the Australian Defence Force, and programs managed by the Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health). The majority of Australian Government expenditure in this area is from the subsidies provided under the private health insurance rebates, which help make ancillary health insurance more affordable. Dental expenses are frequently a feature of ancillary cover products.

As the dental services provided under the rebate are private services and do not form part of a government program, the department does not directly review the provision of these services.

- b) The Australian Government does not regulate the private dental market. The efficiency and effectiveness of private dental services is a matter between the dentist providing the service and the individual receiving the service, as well as the patient's private health insurance fund (if the health insurer covers the particular service).

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-009

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ACUTE CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ruth Webber asked:

The 2007 Report on Government Services lists the main conditions with the highest rate per population of preventable acute hospital separations. Dental conditions had the highest rate of preventable hospital separations at 2.57 preventable separations per 1,000 persons in 2004-05. This is equivalent to over 50,000 preventable separations annually.

- a) What is the estimated total hospitalisation costs in 2004-05 in respect to acute hospital separations for treatment of preventable dental conditions in 2004-05?
- b) Does the high rate of preventable hospital separations for the treatment of dental conditions indicate that there are shortfalls in the availability and access to regular dental care and treatment? If this is not the reason, what is?

Answer:

- a) The total hospitalisation costs in 2004-05 for the diagnostic codes used by the Productivity Commission to determine this measure of preventable hospitalisations is approximately \$105 million.
- b) The general nature of the data and method presented in the report do not allow confident attribution to the range of possible factors that could have 'prevented' hospitalisation. While access to regular dental care is likely to have had some impact, other factors such as dietary preferences, water fluoridation and oral health education could also have had an impact.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-010

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ACUTE CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ruth Webber asked:

On a per capita basis has there been a relative decline in public (non privately insured) patient access to in-hospital surgical procedures since the introduction of the private health insurance premium rebate system?

Answer:

The 30% private health insurance (PHI) rebate was introduced in January 1999.

The table below shows the public patient separation rate per 1,000 population for all in-hospital surgical procedures from 1998-99 to 2004-05.

**Table 1. 'Public', 'private' and 'other' patient separation rates for 'surgical' episodes, per 1,000 population, all hospitals, Australia, 1995-96 to 2004-05**

| <b>Patient type</b> | <b>98-99</b> | <b>99-00</b> | <b>00-01</b> | <b>01-02</b> | <b>02-03</b> | <b>03-04</b> | <b>04-05</b> |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Public              | 49           | 48           | 38           | 37           | 37           | 36           | 37           |
| Private             | 42           | 44           | 47           | 49           | 50           | 51           | 53           |
| Other               | 9            | 8            | 6            | 8            | 8            | 7            | 7            |
| Total               | 100          | 100          | 91           | 94           | 94           | 95           | 97           |

*Notes:* Due to changes to the *National Health Data Dictionary*, it is necessary to define 'public', 'private' and 'other' patients on the basis of different data elements for different years. In general, patients with a funding source of health insurance or self-insured have been counted as 'private', while patients with a funding source of Department of Veterans' Affairs, motor vehicle third party claim or compensation have been counted as 'other'.  
*Source:* Department of Health and Ageing, National Hospital Morbidity (Casemix) Database.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-012

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ACUTE CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Webber asked:

If there is no evidence of privately insured patient over servicing in respect to diagnostic and investigatory procedures and surgical procedures is there any evidence in terms of best medical practice of under servicing of public patients in regard to access to diagnostic and investigatory procedures and surgical procedures?

Answer:

The department does not measure 'best medical practice' or 'under servicing of public patients'. A measure that is collected that perhaps comes closest is the proportion of public patients seen within the appropriate waiting time for elective surgery. This measure is published in *The State of Our Public Hospitals 2006* report, table 2.9 on page 27.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-017

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ACUTE CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Webber asked:

AIHW published statistics for 2004-05 show that in respect to hysterectomy (aged 15-69) procedures, public patient hospital separations made up only 41.7% of total hospital separations for this procedure. How does the department explain the relatively low number of public patient hysterectomy (aged 15-69) hospital separations?

Answer:

The proportion of public patient separations for any particular procedure is influenced by the relative availability of specialist staff and technical infrastructure, as well as factors such as patient preferences, the location and waiting time for the procedure in the public system, and the location and cost of the procedure in the private system.



Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-103

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: DENTAL

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

Is there any policy work being undertaken by the department regarding the growing demand for dental services?

Answer:

The National Oral Health Plan is a high level national framework aimed at setting overall goals for oral health, including the ability to meet demand. The Australian Government and all state and territory governments have agreed to take into account the plan when developing oral health policy in their areas of responsibility.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-104

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: DENTAL

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

Is there any policy work being undertaken giving consideration to the adverse impact of dental conditions on general health if left untreated?

Answer:

The department is aware that oral health is an important factor in general health and this is taken into account when developing policy in relevant areas across the department.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-105

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: DENTAL

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

In late December 2006 the Prime Minister urged parents to encourage their kids to drink a glass of tap water a day to fight tooth decay.

- a) Were there particular figures regarding the worsening tooth decay epidemic in children known to the department at the end of 2006 which may have prompted the Prime Minister's comments?
- b) If so, what was the nature of that data?

Answer:

- a) No.
- b) Not applicable.

## **A glass a day to keep decay at bay: Howard**

[Att A E07-105]

Jason Koutsoukis, December 31, 2006

PRIME Minister John Howard has urged parents to encourage their children to drink a glass of tap water a day to fight tooth decay. In an exclusive New Year's Eve interview, Mr Howard also:

- Gave the green light for the proposed \$11 billion takeover of Qantas, but with strict conditions to be applied;
- Played down hopes of a tax cut in next year's budget;
- Ruled out radical changes to child-care arrangements.

In a plea to parents to get their children to drink tap water instead of bottled water, Mr Howard described the worsening tooth decay epidemic as a national tragedy.

"I think one of the things we have to try and do though, is get young kids to drink tap water again to do something about their teeth," Mr Howard told *The Sun-Herald*. "It's a real tragedy this. You're starting to see the re-emergence of decay in young kids."

Figures released earlier this month showed that one child in every five aged five years and under gets at least one filling or more when they go to the dentist, with just 12 per cent of under-fives going to the dentist yearly. And 38 per cent of 10 to 16-year-olds are also getting at least one filling with each trip to the dentist.

"I grew up in a generation who had bad teeth because we didn't have fluoride, and fortunately my children have all got great teeth," Mr Howard said. "But kids now who are being born into the bottled water generation are missing out on that," Mr Howard said.

Bottled water consumption in Australia has doubled over the past six years. While most metropolitan drinking water supplies have fluoride added, bottled water does not contain the key element which virtually wiped out cavities in children born in the late 1960s, '70s and '80s.

The Australian Dental Association regards water fluoridation as the most effective, efficient way to reduce tooth decay. But Mr Howard refused to promise more Commonwealth funds to boost state government dental programs.

Meanwhile, following last week's letter to Qantas shareholders from private equity consortium Airline Partners Australia - which offered \$11.1 billion to buy Qantas - pledging not to break up the airline, Mr Howard said governments should not interfere.

"There is a certain heaviness of the Australian heart about it, that's the reality because Qantas, although it is no longer owned by the Government, is an Australian," Mr Howard said. "[But] we can't interfere, or we shouldn't interfere. It's not for the Government to decide who owns things."

Despite expectations that the resources boom will deliver another massive surplus in next year's May budget, Mr Howard played down expectations of another tax cut following tax cuts last year that totalled nearly \$50 billion.

He also appeared to rule out any dramatic changes to child-care assistance.

"The existing arrangements are pretty good," he said. "You cannot have a situation where [child-care] is utterly costless."

*Source: The Sun-Herald*

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-106

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: DENTAL

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

- a) Did the department brief either the Prime Minister or the Minister for Health and Ageing about either the worsening tooth decay epidemic in children or the impact of fluoridated water during November or December 2006?
- b) If so, what was the nature of that advice?

Answer:

- a) No.
- b) Not applicable.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-107

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: DENTAL

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

Does the department promote the fluoridation of community water supplies? If so, why does the department pursue this policy? If so, how does the department pursue this policy?

Answer:

The Australian Government supports the National Oral Health Plan which calls for the fluoridation of public water supplies to be extended to communities across Australia with populations of 1,000 or more. The department is aware of the progress being made by state and territory governments to extend the levels of fluoridation of public water supplies through its participation in the National Oral Health Plan Monitoring Group.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-108

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: DENTAL

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

Does the department or any of its agencies monitor the levels of fluoridation in community water supplies in different regions of Australia?

Answer:

Apart from the department's participation in the National Oral Health Plan Monitoring Group, there is no ongoing monitoring of fluoridation levels by the department or any of its agencies.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-069

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: CORD BLOOD

Written Question on Notice

Senator Stott Despoja asked:

Do you keep statistics on the level of cord blood donation? If so, can you provide figures that indicate a trend?

Answer:

The table below provides data on the number of Cord Blood Units (CBUs) collected by the National Cord Blood Collection Network (NCBCN) since government funding commenced in 2001-02.

Due to donor selection and tissue testing criteria, not all CBUs that are collected end up being banked. The collection of CBUs in 2005-06 decreased due to a number of factors including:

- increased minimum cell content required for CBUs to progress to banking; and
- revised banking targets to ensure sustainability of the network while meeting regulatory requirements for improved quality and safety of banked CBUs.

There is no published data on the level of collection by private cord blood banks in Australia.

| <b>Year</b>    | <b>CBU Collection</b> |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| <b>2001-02</b> | 2,534                 |
| <b>2002-03</b> | 3,888                 |
| <b>2003-04</b> | 5,700                 |
| <b>2004-05</b> | 6,194                 |
| <b>2005-06</b> | 4,070                 |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>22,386</b>         |



Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-070

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: CORD BLOOD

Written Question on Notice

Senator Stott Despoja asked:

What is Government policy on cord blood storage? Is there Government policy on the storage of cord blood stem cells?

Answer:

The Australian Government is a strong supporter of cord blood banking. In the 2004 Budget the Australian Government committed \$9.8 million in funding for the National Cord Blood Collection Network (NCBCN) for 2004-05 to 2007-08. Funding for the Network is cost-shared on a 50/50 basis between the Australian Government and state and territory governments.

Senate Community Affairs Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO  
Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-179

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ORGAN DONATION RATES

Hansard Page: CA 121

Senator Brown asked:

Can I have the organ donation rate for 2006?

Answer:

In 2006, the total number of deceased organ donors was 202.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-018

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ACUTE CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ruth Webber asked:

What was the cost of inpatient Medicare medical benefits system for the following procedures in 2004-05:

lens insertion

arthroscopic

diagnostic gastrointestinal endoscopy

knee replacement

Hysterectomy (aged 15-69)

As listed in table 10.6 in "Australian Hospital Statistics 2004-05" published by AIHW?

Answer:

The total cost to the MBS for these procedures provided to private patients in public or private hospitals in 2004-05 (year of processing) was as follows:

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| • lens insertion (a)                        | \$57,149,167 |
| • arthroscopic (b)                          | \$28,419,676 |
| • diagnostic gastrointestinal endoscopy (c) | \$61,220,679 |
| • knee replacement (d)                      | \$13,273,653 |
| • Hysterectomy (aged 15-69) (e)             | \$7,846,497  |
- a) MBS items 42701, 42702, 42703, 42707 and 42710.  
b) MBS items 48945 to 48960, 49118, 49121, 49218 to 49227, 49360, 49363, 49366, 49557 to 49566, 49700, 49703, 50100 and 50102.  
c) MBS items 11820, 30473, 30484, 32084, 32090 and 32095. Note – excludes diagnostic items also involving a procedure.  
d) MBS items 49518 to 49534.  
e) MBS items 35653 to 35673, 35750 to 35756 and 35729.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-013

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ACUTE CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Webber asked:

AIHW published statistics for 2004-05 show that in respect to lens insertion procedures, public patient hospital separations made up only 25.9% of the total of 169,352 hospital separations for this procedure. How does the department explain the very low number of public patient lens insertion hospital separations?

Answer:

The proportion of public patient separations for any particular procedure, especially elective procedures is influenced by the relative availability of specialist staff and technical infrastructure, as well as factors such as patient preferences, the venue and waiting time for the procedure in the public system, and the location and cost of the procedure in the private system.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-014

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ACUTE CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Webber asked:

AIHW published statistics for 2004-05 show that in respect to arthroscopic procedures, public patient hospital separations made up only 18.7% of the total of 119,322 hospital separations for this procedure. How does the department explain the very low number of public patient arthroscopic hospital separations?

Answer:

Please refer to E07-013.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-015

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ACUTE CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Webber asked:

AIHW published statistics for 2004-05 show that in respect to diagnostic gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures, public patient hospital separations made up only 28.8% of the total of 572,780 hospital separations for this procedure. How does the department explain the very low number of public patient diagnostic gastrointestinal endoscopy hospital separations?

Answer:

Please refer to E07-013.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-016

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ACUTE CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Webber asked:

AIHW published statistics for 2004-05 show that in respect to knee replacement procedures, public patient hospital separations made up only 32.4% of total hospital separations for this procedure. How does the department explain the very low number of public patient knee replacement hospital separations?

Answer:

Please refer to E07-013.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-178

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ACUTE CARE

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

The 2007 Report on Government Services identifies the main conditions with the highest rate per population of hospital separations for potentially acute conditions, and identifies dental conditions as having the highest rate among these. Can you explain that?

Answer:

The rate may be attributable to many factors such as the underlying prevalence of the condition in the population, the availability of ambulatory care, dietary preferences, water fluoridation, and oral health education. It would also include, however, factors beyond the control of any government, especially individual choices and behaviours.



Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-022

OUTCOME 14: Health and Medical Research

Topic: RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMAN EMBRYOS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Stott Despoja asked:

Your website still refers only to assessing applications for licences to use human excess ART embryos. Does this mean that the new licensing and monitoring system to institute the amendments contained in the Prohibition of Human Cloning for Reproduction and the Regulation of Human Embryo Research Amendment Act 2006 is not yet in place?

Answer:

The National Health and Medical Research Council is updating its website and developing procedures for licence application assessment and monitoring compliance with the amended legislation. These procedures will be implemented by 12 June 2007, which is the date the provisions of the Prohibition of Human Cloning for Reproduction and the Regulation of Human Embryo Research Amendment Bill 2006 commence.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-023

OUTCOME 14: Health and Medical Research

Topic: RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMAN EMBRYOS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Stott Despoja asked:

What progress has been made on preparing the licensing and monitoring system for the new regime? When do you anticipate being in a position to accept licence applications under the new regime?

Answer:

The National Health and Medical Research Council is developing procedures for licence application assessment and monitoring compliance with the amended legislation. Applications for activities that will become licensable under the amended legislation can only be considered by the Licensing Committee after 12 June 2007, when the changes come into effect.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-145

OUTCOME 14: Health and Medical Research

Topic: RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMAN EMBRYOS

Hansard Page: CA 125

Senator Patterson asked:

There was money allocated for the 2002 bill for public education and awareness. Do you remember how much that was?

Can you give that to me on notice, and, if there was, how much has been spent and what it has been spend on.

Answer:

The budget for implementation of the *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002* and the *Prohibition of Human Cloning Act 2002* did not specify an allocation for public education and awareness. However, the National Health and Medical Research Council has allocated resources to ensuring awareness of the legislation through holding information sessions in capital cities; visiting universities, research institutions, IVF clinics, human research ethics committees and other stakeholders; and ensuring clear information is provided on the website.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-024

OUTCOME 14: Health and Medical Research

Topic: RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMAN EMBRYOS

Written Notice on Question

Senator Stott Despoja asked:

To what extent will this legislation depend on consistent legislation from the states and territories? Are you aware of any movement on the part of the states and territories to enact consistent legislation?

Answer:

The Commonwealth legislation is not dependent on state/territory legislation. The *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002* and the *Prohibition of Human Cloning Act 2002* is part of a nationally consistent framework that includes complementary state and territory legislation. At the 13 April 2007 meeting of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), all jurisdictions (except the Northern Territory) re-affirmed their commitment to a nationally consistent framework (refer extract from 13 April 2007 COAG Communique at [Attachment A](#)). The states and the Australian Capital Territory have undertaken to use their best endeavours to introduce corresponding legislation into their legislatures by 12 June 2008 and for all parties to maintain nationally-consistent arrangements over time. Bills were introduced to the Victorian and Western Australian Parliaments on 13 March 2007 and 28 March 2007, respectively. There have been no other bills introduced from other states or territories at this stage.

**EXTRACT FROM COMMUNIQUE OF 13 APRIL 2007  
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN  
GOVERNMENTS**

**Lockhart Review**

The Commonwealth, States and the Australian Capital Territory have today signed a notice of variation to the intergovernmental agreement to renew their commitment to nationally-consistent arrangements for the prohibition of human cloning for reproduction and the regulation of human embryo research. This commitment follows amendments enacted by the *Prohibition of Human Cloning for Reproduction and the Regulation of Human Embryo Research Amendment Act 2006* (Cth) to the *Prohibition of Human Cloning Act 2002* (Cth) and the *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002* (Cth). These changes give effect to the majority of the recommendations of the Lockhart Review report released in December 2005. The States and the Australian Capital Territory have undertaken to use their best endeavours to introduce corresponding legislation into their legislatures by 12 June 2008 and for all parties to maintain nationally-consistent arrangements over time.

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-134

OUTCOME 15: Biosecurity and Emergency Response

Topic: EXERCISE CUMPSTON 06

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

- a) What limitations /flaws in our preparedness for a pandemic were identified through Operation Cumpston?
- b) What is being done to address these?
- c) Are there any more similar exercises planned for the future?

Answer:

- a) *Exercise Cumpston 06* confirmed that the containment strategy and systematic approach to health surveillance that underpin Australia's planning are sound and appropriate, and that existing plans, procedures and personnel would enable a similar real case situation to be managed effectively.

The principal lessons learned relate to crisis communication and coordination, public communications, information systems, social distancing, and sustaining the response.

- b) An evaluation report has been prepared providing an analysis of the outcomes with recommendations to address the policy and operational issues identified. The report is expected to be published after consideration by Health Ministers at the 30 March 2007 meeting of the Australian Health Ministers' Conference.

With the agreement of Health Ministers, the recommendations will be taken forward by the Australian Health Protection Committee in relation to health issues and in consultation with other relevant bodies in relation to whole-of-government aspects.

Participating jurisdictions, government and non government agencies, and committees have conducted debriefings to identify operational lessons relating to their responsibilities. These lessons are being used to refine preparedness plans and procedures and to assist with training.

- c) An on-going program of exercises is being developed to address pandemic influenza preparedness, as well as other health emergencies. The work is being undertaken in consultation with the states and territories and draws on the outcomes of *Exercise Cumpston 06*.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-135

OUTCOME 15: Biosecurity and Emergency Response

Topic: FLU VACCINE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

Has the Australian Government given any consideration to the purchase/stockpiling of a “pre-primer” vaccine for pandemic flu?

Answer:

The Australian Government announced in December 2005 a commitment of \$16.6 million to stockpile a prototype H5N1 vaccine when it is shown to be safe and effective.

The department has been in discussions with numerous suppliers of pandemic vaccine about the progress of their pandemic vaccine development programs including their clinical trials, and about the possible supply of a pre-pandemic stockpile. In addition, the department has been monitoring the international market for pandemic vaccines.

A pre-pandemic vaccine is designed to produce an immune response to strains of avian influenza (H5N1) currently circulating in many countries. If the strain changes to spread more easily among humans, that is, it changes into a pandemic strain, a pre-pandemic vaccine is likely to offer only partial protection. More complete protection against any eventual pandemic strain requires the development of a pandemic-specific vaccine.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-109

OUTCOME 15: Biosecurity and Emergency Response

Topic: CLIMATE CHANGE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

- a) Has the Department done any work on the health risks posed by climate change?
- b) If so, please provide details?

Answer:

- a) Yes
- b) The department, in cooperation with state and territory health departments through the Australian Health Protection Committee and its sub-committees, has been supporting the work of environment agencies, including the Australian Greenhouse Office, in examining the potential health risks posed by climate change. The department has provided funding for research including on vector borne disease risks (see answer to E07-110(b) for further details).



ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-110

OUTCOME 15: Biosecurity and Emergency Response

Topic: CLIMATE CHANGE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

- a) What risks/challenges/threats have been identified? For example, communicable diseases such as Ross River Fever.
- b) What steps are being taken to address these risks/challenges/threats?

Answer:

- a) A number of potential risks have been identified. These include potential increases in morbidity and mortality from thermal stress (especially heat-waves), floods, cyclones and bushfires, and potential changes in the pattern of vector-borne, food-borne and water-borne diseases. Changes to industry, land use and climate events such as drought can have mental health consequences in rural communities, along with other potential health risks (e.g. freshwater shortages, exposures to heat and dust, and changes in local food availability and affordability).
- b) The department provided input through the Australian Greenhouse Office to the development of the National Climate Change Adaptation Framework endorsed by the Council of Australian Governments on 13 April 2007.

The department participates in cooperative health protection efforts with the states and territories through the Australian Health Protection Committee (AHPC) and its sub-committees, including the Communicable Diseases Network of Australia (CDNA) and the Environmental Health Committee.

The National Arbovirus and Malaria Advisory Committee (NAMAC) provides expert technical advice to the CDNA on arboviruses and malaria and assists in the detection, management and control of real or potential outbreaks of arboviral and malarial disease.

The department supports the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS). The NNDSS was established in 1990 under the auspices of the CDNA. It co-ordinates national surveillance on an agreed list of communicable diseases or disease groups in Australia, including vector-borne diseases such as dengue and Ross River fever. Information collected on notifiable diseases has been published in the Annual report of the NNDSS since 1991.

The department has provided ad hoc funding to assist in vector eradication programs in the Northern Territory and Queensland, in response to requests from those governments.

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13 February 2007

Question: E07-128

OUTCOME 10: Health System Capacity and Quality

Topic: STRENGTHENING CANCER CARE PACKAGE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Evans asked:

Please provide data on expenditure by financial year to date on the Strengthening Cancer Care package, compared to the original budgeted figures

Answer:

**Note:** It is generally not possible to provide departmental funding expenditure, so only Administered funding comparisons can be provided.

Data on the 2006-07 financial year will not be available until the end of the financial year.

***MEASURES ANNOUNCED IN 2004-05***

**ONE OFF GRANTS TO CAMP QUALITY AND MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION**

FUNDING: \$2 million to Camp Quality and Make-A-Wish Foundation

|                                | 2004-05 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 2.0           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 2.0           |

## **BUILDING CANCER SUPPORT NETWORKS**

**FUNDING: \$3.1 million over five years (\$2.6 million administered)**

|                                | 2004-05 (\$m) | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 0.5           | 0.5           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.2           | 0.3           |

## **CANCER AUSTRALIA**

**FUNDING: \$13.7 million over five years (\$13 million administered)**

|                                | 2004-05 (\$m) | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 1.0           | 4.1           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.1           | 0.2           |

Note - The original funding allocation has since been amended to reflect movement of funds into future years and actual expenditure is not directly comparable to the original Budget allocation.

## **THE NATIONAL BREAST CANCER CENTRE**

**FUNDING: \$4.0 million over five years (\$3.9 million administered)**

|                                | 2004-05(\$m) | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 0.8          | 0.8           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.8          | 0.8           |

## **ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MELBOURNE**

**FUNDING: \$10 million in 2004-05**

|                                | 2004-05 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 10.0          |
| Administered funding expensed  | 10.0          |

## **RADIATION THERAPY INTERNSHIPS AND UNDERGRADUATE PLACES**

**FUNDING:** \$14.9 million over five years.

As part of this initiative, 100 additional radiation therapist training places are to be provided over five years at a cost of \$6.0 million. This element is managed by the Department of Education, Science and Training.

The remaining \$8.9 million (managed through the Department) is to provide support to the Radiotherapy Workforce.

### **Radiotherapy Workforce**

|                                | 2004-05 (\$m) | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 0.7           | 1.7           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.0           | 0.5           |

## **MEASURES ANNOUNCED IN 2005-06**

### **BREAST CANCER NETWORK AUSTRALIA**

**FUNDING:** \$1 million over four years. (\$800,000 administered)

|                                | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 0.2           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.2           |

### **CANCER RESEARCH**

**FUNDING:** \$17.6 million over four years (\$16 million administered)

|                                | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 4.0           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.0           |

Note: The original funding allocation has since been amended to reflect movement of funds into future years and actual expenditure is not directly comparable to the original Budget allocation.

### **INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT FOR CANCER CLINICAL TRIALS**

**FUNDING:** \$21.7 million over four years (\$20 million administered)

|                                | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 5.0           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 5.0           |

## **EVALUATION OF THE STRENGTHENING CANCER CARE INITIATIVE**

**FUNDING:** \$1.2 million over two years

Funding for this measure does not begin until 2007-08.

## **MENTORS FOR REGIONAL HOSPITALS AND CANCER PROFESSIONALS**

**FUNDING:** \$14.1 million over four years (\$12 million administered)

|                                | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 3.0           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 2.8           |

## **LOCAL PALLIATIVE CARE GRANTS PROGRAMS**

**FUNDING:** \$23.1 million over four years (\$20.7 million administered)

|                                | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 5.0           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 5.0           |

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PACKAGES FOR CANCER PROFESSIONALS**

**FUNDING:** \$3.3 million in 2005-06 (\$2.5 million administered)

|                                | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 2.5           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.5           |

Note: The original funding allocation has since been amended to reflect movement of funds into future years and actual expenditure is not directly comparable to the original Budget allocation.

## **DEVELOPING TRAINING COURSES FOR CANCER NURSES**

**FUNDING:** \$4.1 million over four years (\$3.5 million administered)

|                                | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 2.0           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.7           |

## **QUITTING SMOKING WHEN PREGNANT**

**FUNDING:** \$4.3 million over three years (\$3.3 million administered)

|                                | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 1.6           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.0           |

## **BOWEL CANCER SCREENING**

**FUNDING:** \$43.4 million over three years for the phasing in of a national bowel cancer screening program. This funding includes \$7.8 million announced in the 2004 -05 Budget for the Bowel Cancer Screening Pilot program.

|                                | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 1.4           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.7           |

Note – This figure is for administered funding only and may differ from figures previously provided to the Parliament, as figures previously provided were a total figure including administered and departmental expenditure.

## **SKIN CANCER AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**

**FUNDING:** \$5.5 million over two years (\$5.1 million administered)

|                                | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 0.4           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.2           |

## **NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASE**

**FUNDING:** \$5.5 million over four years (\$5.2 million administered)

|                                | 2005-06 (\$m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Administered funding allocated | 0.1           |
| Administered funding expensed  | 0.03          |

## **SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL – MEDICARE BENEFITS ELIGIBILITY FOR MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING (MRI)**

**FUNDING:** \$5.1 million over four years.

For the eight months since the MRI unit at the Sydney Children's Hospital became operational in 2006, \$1.25 million has been expended in Medicare outlays for services through two MRI units situated at Randwick Hospital. It is not possible to determine the quantum of Medicare benefits derived from services provided on each individual unit.