Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-307

OUTCOME 5: Primary Care

Topic: GP SUPER CLINICS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Of the \$280.0 million allocated to the 2007-2008 GP Super Clinics Program, it has been stated that there was an assumed amount for the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS), Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) and Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA).

- a) Why was this amount assumed?
- b) How much was allocated to each of those areas?
- c) How much has actually been paid to each of those three areas? (Refer page 26 and subsequent, Hansard, 31 May.)

Answer:

The costings for the Program included flow on to MBS and PBS and DVA to reflect the potential for additional access by patients to GP services. MBS, PBS and DVA services are demand driven programs funded under Special Appropriation Acts. Actual costs are not able to be separately identified against specific measures and therefore were not included in the 2010-11 Improved Primary Health Care Infrastructure (including GP Super Clinics) initiative.