Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May & 3 June 2011

Question: E11-160

OUTCOME 8: Indigenous Health

Topic: NATIONAL EYE HEALTH FRAMEWORK

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

- a) What is the process for reviewing the National Eye Health Framework (including project plan, timeline and stakeholder engagement)?
- b) When is the final report due and what will the review cost?

Answer:

a) The *National Framework for Action to Promote Eye Health and Prevent Avoidable Blindness and Vision Loss* (National Framework) provides a structure for governments, health professionals, non-government organisations, industry and individuals to work in partnership and was developed as Australia's response to the World Health Assembly resolution WHA56.26, calling for member nations to develop a national Vision 2020 plan.

The National Framework was endorsed at the Australian Health Ministers' Conference (AHMC) in 2005, where it was agreed that a report on the progress of all jurisdictions against the National Framework be provided to AHMC every three years. To contribute to the three yearly report, the Department of Health and Ageing has a funding agreement with *Vision 2020 Australia: The Right to Sight* to conduct a stocktake of progress against the National Framework. The results of the stocktake will also feed into other reporting documents such as Australia's three yearly report to the World Health Organization Executive Board, due at its meeting in January 2012.

b) The next three yearly report on the National Framework is due to be presented to AHMC in late 2011. The cost under the Funding Agreement for the stocktake is \$253,000 (GST exclusive).