

**Community Affairs Committee  
Budget Estimates, 10 April 2019 - Health Portfolio**

PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000374	0 - Whole of Portfolio	Watt, Murray	PBS campaign	<p>Senator WATT: Thanks for what you think the department might think. I will ask the department about the decision to launch each of these campaigns. Let's start with the PBS campaign. At \$5.6 million, that's the largest one you have. From memory, that's spruiking how great the government's actions are around pharmaceuticals. That launched in March this year, around last week. What date did it launch?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I'm not sure of the exact date. While Mr Yannopoulos is looking at that, I will say that, when you look at these campaigns, many of them reflect significant changes in policy where we do need to get information out.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 5
SQ19-000375	0 - Whole of Portfolio	Watt, Murray	Campaigns	<p>Senator WATT: So, depending on the exact date in February, it might be possible to get more up-to-date figures for the campaigns that were launched in February, being the Health Star Rating, the private health insurance and the earlier campaigns. Could you make an attempt to estimate a more up-to-date figure?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Yes, noting that it's still in the field as well.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Yes, which means it will continue increasing as more ads are run—right?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WATT: On Friday when we met, I can't remember who but one of the health officials said the department had booked advertising for the rest of the year. Again, is it possible to estimate what the spending will be by this Sunday? Maybe in calculating those figures you could do your best to estimate it up to Sunday, factoring in buys that have occurred?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We'll take it on notice and see what we can provide.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Then, if you could also ask—</p> <p>ACTING CHAIR: It may be necessary to qualify the reliability of what you're providing as well.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: As I mentioned, there is a reconciliation process through another portfolio, so we'd have to look at how that works.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Could I also ask that you calculate, as best you can, what the spend will be by next Sunday, the 21st, if caretaker hasn't commenced?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Spending until Sunday?</p> <p>Senator WATT: Sunday, 21 April.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Okay. Noting that we—</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 7
SQ19-000376	0 - Whole of Portfolio	Watt, Murray	Campaign awareness	<p>Senator WATT: For any of the campaigns that we've been talking about, have any of the numbers of placements increased, say, over the last fortnight? So, for the ones that started in February, did they start at a relatively low number of placements and increase as time has gone on?</p> <p>Ms Grieve: I'd have to look at them individually, but that's generally not how we would approach a campaign. You usually start at a reasonable level of intensity to try and build awareness at the beginning of a campaign, and then keep that going for a period of time.</p> <p>Senator WATT: To make life easier why don't we just focus on the four biggest campaigns, which are the PBS, private health insurance, Health Star Rating and Get the Facts on immunisation. They're all the ones that are over \$3 million. Would you mind having a look at those—and answer this in whatever terminology is best—but I'm looking at: did they start big and then decrease, or has there been an increase in the number of placements as time has gone on?</p> <p>Ms Grieve: We can have a look at that.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 8
SQ19-000377	0 - Whole of Portfolio	Lines, Sue	Campaign media plans	<p>Senator LINES: There was talk earlier of a media plan. Are you able to table that?</p> <p>Mr Yannopoulos: We might have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator LINES: I'm asking if you can table it, not take it on notice.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Normally we provide information around media plans and market research once the campaign is completed. I'd like to take that on notice and see what we can provide to you around the media plan.</p> <p>Senator LINES: I was hoping that you could make a decision and table something today.</p> <p>ACTING CHAIR: The secretary said she'll take it on notice.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I'll have a look and see what we can table today but I think, in terms of the chair's comments, it's probably worth noting the intent for consumers around this campaign that's being run.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 10
SQ19-000378	0 - Whole of Portfolio	Watt, Murray	Ad involving a pharmacy	<p>Ms Grieve: I would just add that the pharmacy was dressed appropriately for filming an ad. Very significant care was taken to make sure that we wouldn't be able to identify particular medications et cetera. We were able to substitute generic brand medicines on cabinets et cetera to make sure that we complied.</p> <p>Senator WATT: There have been some reports that it actually involved the building of a set for filming this ad on. Is that not correct?</p> <p>Ms Grieve: Only so far as we had to do some work within the pharmacy to make sure that we would not be able to identify particular brands of medicines.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Do you happen to know the cost of that?</p> <p>Ms Grieve: No, I don't. I'd have to take that on notice.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 12

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PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000379	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Watt, Murray	Home care packages	<p>Senator WATT: Does that mean, then, that since February's announcement the department has prepared modelling based on the provision of extra home care packages?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We provided that last budget and continue to do so.</p> <p>Senator WATT: When was the most recent time that the department provided that type of modelling to government?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I'd have to take that on notice.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 15
SQ19-000380	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Watt, Murray	Home care package costings	<p>Ms Beauchamp: We have provided information on home care packages and costings over the course of the last 18 months—since the 2018-19 budget.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Thank you. I understand. And I'm asking specifically: since February this year.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I'd have to take that on notice. But, as I said, we provide information and advice on an ongoing basis to our ministers.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 15
SQ19-000381	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Watt, Murray	Home care packages - modelling	<p>Senator WATT: I'm not asking about the budget. So, Dr Studdert, if you're the official who oversaw the preparation of this modelling on ongoing basis, my question is whether the department prepared any modelling—presumably, as to the cost or other consequences—around the provision of additional home care packages. Did any modelling of that kind get prepared by the department since the February announcement of more home care packages?</p> <p>Dr Studdert: I don't know the answer to that. I'm happy to take it on notice. But I should note that the numbers and the way you do the calculations around additional packages don't change significantly month-to-month, and it's a piece of work that is refreshed from time to time. But the minister's officers themselves are very familiar with how to do that work as well, so I don't think it's something, necessarily, our officials would have to do or provide if that was what government was contemplating.</p> <p>Senator WATT: So who is the official below you who is in charge of this type of modelling or prepares that work for you?</p> <p>Dr Studdert: There's a whole team that does that, and—</p> <p>Senator WATT: Is the head of that team here?</p> <p>Dr Studdert: No.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Is there no-one here who was involved in the refreshing of this information?</p> <p>Dr Studdert: But I'm not sure to what end, Senator, because, as the secretary has said, that work is done on an ongoing basis—</p> <p>Senator WATT: I know, but I can't get an answer. I've got a really precise question. I know it's been done on ongoing basis. I know it's been done for 18 months. I know it's been done at the last budget. I'm asking: since the announcement was made in February around more home care packages, was any new modelling or refreshing—however you want to put it—around the provision of extra home care packages undertaken by the department? That's a pretty reasonable question to ask.</p> <p>Dr Studdert: I think it's highly unlikely it was done outside of the budget context, because that is the basis on which we engage with the minister's office on this particular issue.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: But, if there was anything outside of the budget context, perhaps we can take that on notice?</p> <p>Dr Studdert: I'm happy to see if anything was done outside of the budget context and get back to you.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 15
SQ19-000382	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Watt, Murray	Home care packages announcement	<p>Senator WATT: Yes, so it's a live question, because it's not being answered, as to whether options were prepared and considered for government to announce another 10,000 home care packages. That's why I'm interested to know when Minister Wyatt learnt that the budget did not contain any extra home care packages.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: That is a question that's eminently answerable. I think we'll have to take that on notice. I'll ask Minister Wyatt when he knew what the outcome of the budget was. As with all of us, even in our own capacity, there would be an announcement, 'This is the way the budget is' and there would have been a day or a time, I understand, when he would have received the budget papers and had that confirmed. We'll take that on notice.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 22
SQ19-000383	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Watt, Murray	Additional home care packages	<p>Senator WATT: Mr Yannopoulos, given you're in charge of the budget section, do you know whether the cost of any additional home care packages forms part of this \$3.2 billion?</p> <p>Mr Yannopoulos: I don't know, because that \$3.2 billion is not a number I've ever seen. So I'm unable to tell you what its components are.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Do you know whether any expenditure in any part of the department was provided for in MYEFO but did not end up being announced in the budget?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I'd have to take that on notice, but, of course, that line item is for exactly that information in terms of decisions that have been taken and not been announced. But, in terms of whether decisions were taken and not announced in MYEFO and what resulted in the budget context, I'm sure there were some included in MYEFO.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 22

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SQ19-000384	0 - Whole of Portfolio	Watt, Murray	MYEFO	<p>Ms Beauchamp: You asked me about decisions related to this portfolio. There were some decisions taken and not announced in MYEFO, and I think most of those were reflected in the 2019-20 budget.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Which were the ones that weren't reflected in the budget?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I'd have to take that on notice, but given the line item it would remain confidential until the government makes the announcement.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 23
SQ19-000385	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Siewert, Rachel	National Alcohol Strategy	<p>Senator SIEWERT: When is the next version of the National Alcohol Strategy going to be finalised and released?</p> <p>Mr Laffan: The National Alcohol Strategy is currently being considered by members of the Ministerial Drug and Alcohol Forum and it will be up to their decision as to when the strategy is finalised and released.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It seems to me, from what I understand, that the time line slipped. Would that be a correct understanding?</p> <p>Mr Laffan: Certainly, Minister Hunt was particularly keen to ensure there was significant consultation in the lead-up to consideration of that strategy by the Ministerial Drug and Alcohol Forum. Yes, it was intended to be finalised late last year, but, hopefully, those responses will all be received from the Ministerial Drug and Alcohol Forum members soon.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: When is 'soon'? Bearing in mind that we're going into an election, it's not likely to happen before that, is it?</p> <p>Mr Laffan: The minister and Minister Dutton, as co-chairs of the Ministerial Drug and Alcohol Forum, wrote to members on 28 February in relation to that document. They asked for a response from members by 30 March and there are still two responses outstanding.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Which states are outstanding?</p> <p>Mr Laffan: I don't have that information at my fingertips.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can you take it on notice?</p> <p>Mr Laffan: Sure.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 66
SQ19-000386	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Watt, Murray	Home care packages wait times	<p>Senator WATT: Is it possible to break down that 16,076 figure for people who were waiting for home care or people waiting for residential care?</p> <p>Ms Buffinton: No. All we can say is they were the cohort that, as a minimum, had been assessed for home care and therefore were in the queue. Some potentially would never actually come into home care; they will go to residential care.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: But you could give us the figures on the packages they were waiting for, whether they are level three or four packages?</p> <p>Dr Studdert: Or one or two. We could. We don't have that analysis, but I assume it could be done.</p> <p>Ms Buffinton: It could be done. Just so we're clear: that is quite a detailed data extraction, so it's not something that we're going to be getting today.</p> <p>Senator WATT: No. Maybe you could take that on notice. I take it they are the most up-to-date figures you have for people who passed away while waiting?</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 30
SQ19-000387	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Polley, Helen	Breakdown of funding	<p>Senator POLLEY: Moving to the 'Better quality of care' measure in the budget, a further \$8.4 million over five years was announced, from this financial year forward, to introduce mandatory reporting against national residential-care quality indicators for pressure sores, use of physical restraints, weight loss, falls and fractures, and medication management. Can you provide the breakdown of funding for each year over the five years. Again, what consultation has the department undertaken in relation to that budget initiative?</p> <p>Ms Jolly: I'll need to do that in two parts. There was actually \$4.2 million announced in the budget, which was for the two new measures. The breakdown of that is: for 2018-19, \$0.7 million, for 2019-20, \$1.4 million, and, for 2020-21, \$0.01 million. That was complemented by a measure that was previously announced of \$4.2 million to roll out the voluntary program. I'm not sure I have the year-by-year breakdown of that. I'd have to take that on notice, I apologise.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 33

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PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000388	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Siewert, Rachel	National Obesity Strategy	<p>Ms Beauchamp: Senator, there is an obesity strategy, which was being developed through the Commonwealth health ministers at both the October 2019 meeting and the more recent March 2019 meeting. A number of jurisdictions—Queensland, ACT and ourselves—were looking at various parts of the obesity strategy. It has now been given to officials to come up with a strategy right across every jurisdiction so that we can put a progress report to the next COAG health ministers meeting.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Now I'm confused between June 2020 and the next COAG meeting.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We'll be providing ongoing updates to health ministers, with that deadline in train.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Right, with 2020. Given it's budget estimates, was there any money in the budget specifically for obesity measures?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I cannot recall specifically for obesity measures, but there may already be a number. Obviously, there are a number of programs that do address obesity issues, so I'll take that part on notice.</p> <p>Mr Boyley: We'll need to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you could take that on notice. Also, are you able to take on notice where the programs that you've listed for us run over the forward estimates—</p> <p>Mr Boyley: Absolutely, and how long they run for.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: and how long they run for?</p> <p>Mr Boyley: We're happy to.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 68
SQ19-000389	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Siewert, Rachel	National Obesity Strategy	<p>Senator SIEWERT: That, then, probably takes me to the next question. Can you tell me now what the cost of obesity is to the health budget? And, if not, can you tell if work is being done on this? I realise it's quite a big question if you then link it through to the chronic illnesses it's associated with.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I'm sure there's been some research work done on it. I just haven't got it at my fingertips.</p> <p>Mr Boyley: I don't have a number value. I have some incidence measures—how big the problem is—but not in economic terms.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Boyley: I'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take on notice to provide it, in terms of obesity in general but also, then, its links to other chronic conditions.</p> <p>Mr Boyley: Sure.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 68
SQ19-000390	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Polley, Helen	Home care - service providers	<p>Senator POLLEY: How many service providers have been approved by the department? How many of these service providers are actively delivering Home Care?</p> <p>Dr Studdert: That is the responsibility of another one of our officers. I think the number is around 850 that have been approved for Home Care. I think the second part of your question was: how many are actually providing? It's less than that, but we can get you that number.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Would you be able to give us a breakdown of where those providers are?</p> <p>Dr Studdert: I may not have that here today. But we can certainly take that on notice, yes.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 33
SQ19-000391	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Watt, Murray	Workforce Incentive Program	<p>Senator WATT: Could I get people to check that for me. Are there any areas which currently have access to incentives under the Practice Nurse Incentive Program or the General Practice Rural Incentives Program that will lose access under the Workforce Incentive Program due to changes in eligibility?</p> <p>Mr Hallinan: There'll be some locations that lose weighting. They won't lose incentive but they'll have a reduction in the amount of funding that they would otherwise receive. So if under a previous geographic classification they were classified as rural and under current geographic classification they're classified as metropolitan, they would no longer receive a rural weighting on their incentive payment.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Why is that?</p> <p>Mr Hallinan: It is because they're no longer rural.</p> <p>Senator WATT: They're no longer considered rural under the new guidelines.</p> <p>Mr Hallinan: It's based on the ABS statistical changes. Essentially, if you were in an outer region of a major city which has now become part of the major city and is considered by the ABS to be a major city under the modified Monash system, that change is required. They're not seen to be rural. They have access to all the metropolitan services, to public transportation and the like.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Can you confirm that no parts of Tasmania will lose access to the incentives?</p> <p>Mr Hallinan: They won't lose access to the incentives, but what would occur in some circumstances is, where somewhere—Launceston, for instance—may have had a rural loading applied in the past, that rural loading would not apply from the start date of the WIP.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Is it possible to table the areas that will lose that rural loading?</p> <p>Mr Hallinan: Yes, we can take it on notice and get for you the locations that are affected by the geographic changes.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 70

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SQ19-000393	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Watt, Murray	Workforce Incentive Program	<p>Senator WATT: Being a senator for Queensland, do you know off the top of your head what parts of Queensland will lose that loading?</p> <p>Mr Hallinan: There might be locations that are periurban to growth centres of major cities.</p> <p>Prof. Murphy: Sunshine Coast could be affected.</p> <p>Senator WATT: What about the Gold Coast?</p> <p>Mr Hallinan: Again, periurban locations to the Gold Coast may be affected.</p> <p>Senator WATT: It's not likely to be outside South-East Queensland. By South-East Queensland I'm talking Sunshine Coast down to the Gold Coast and Brisbane out to Ipswich.</p> <p>Mr Hallinan: It'd be possible that some of the major town centres in Far North Queensland might be affected as well, but I'd have to take the detail on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATT: If you could, that'd be good.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 70
SQ19-000394	2 - Health Access and Support Services	O'Neill, Deborah	Eating Disorder Centres	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Can I just go back to the Sunshine Coast. Is the additional \$4.5 million for the services that are provided there, not for capital works?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: It's part of the global whole, so the total amount now is \$6 million.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: If you can provide on notice any further breakdown, that would be helpful.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: Yes. Going back to South Australia, that one is provided in this financial year. Then there's the Western Australian Peel Health Hub that we talked about the other day also. That is \$4 million as part of a larger announcement of \$25 million for that facility. Again, as part of something else, it's a smaller amount to allow for an eating disorders residential facility trial to occur at that residence.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 78
SQ19-000395	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Polley, Helen	My Aged Care	<p>Senator POLLEY: The department has been aware, as you've indicated, that there have been issues around the lack of confidence in the website by some. Did you prepare a brief—and I'm not asking what was in the brief—to the minister in relation to the website itself before you went out to tender to have a new provider providing that website? So, was that a decision of the minister to change the website, or was that a decision of the department?</p> <p>Ms Buffinton: I will have to go back and actually look at the brief. But, certainly, we provide for the minister background on what our market research is telling us on the satisfaction of consumers, providers and others in the website or My Aged Care. Certainly an ongoing discussion has been that the current website wasn't meeting what we thought was the level that we wanted, and, certainly, in demonstrating different ideas and then deciding to go with a website, it was something we did in consultation. I just don't know whether it was a departmental decision or a ministerial decision.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: I think you said that there was a rating of only 50 per cent satisfaction, and—</p> <p>Ms Buffinton: I'll have it for you, but it's something around the 57 per cent mark, and our aim is to be at least at 65.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: All right. So you'll come back to us with the details of what happened?</p> <p>Ms Buffinton: Yes.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 36
SQ19-000396	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Siewert, Rachel	Headspace - staffing	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Have you done any rough calculations about the level of staff that will be required for the level of funding that has been committed?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: The costing process builds up a model using how many staff you expect. I imagine we have some estimates. We will have to work through how it should actually work in practice to make sure we meet the need. So, yes, we've had a think about it, but I wouldn't want to be locked in to the work we've done so far.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: You can't provide any information on notice—</p> <p>Ms Edwards: We're still talking about headspace aren't we?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Preliminary work only?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: We would have used what we know about staffing of headspaces to work up costings.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Are you able to provide details on notice of some of the—</p> <p>Ms Edwards: The assumptions?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: The assumptions, yes.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I think they count as budget in confidence documents.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Can you check?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I'll take it on notice. We might be able to provide you some general information about what sort of assumptions we make.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: That would be good.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: But I'm not sure.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 87

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SQ19-000397	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Siewert, Rachel	Expansion of headspace and adult centres - consultation process	Senator SIEWERT: In terms of the consultation about the whole process—I will ask them for both, as it'll save me asking again for the adult centres—for the expansion of the headspace services, and then for the adult centres, who was consulted in developing up the initiative? Ms Edwards: We can take that on notice.	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 87
SQ19-000398	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Polley, Helen	Specialist Dementia Care Program	Mr Smith: The Specialist Dementia Care Program is rolling out in three phases. For the early prototype unit, which is in Brightwater in Western Australia, agreements have been signed with that facility, and the relevant agreements with the state government have also been signed, so that prototype is well and truly under development to be rolled out shortly. Senator POLLEY: When will that be up and running? Mr Smith: My understanding is it will be up and running in the next financial year. I'd need to get some specific details on notice, but it's well and truly under development.	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 40
SQ19-000399	2 - Health Access and Support Services	O'Neill, Deborah	Satellite headspace sites	Senator O'NEILL: In the interests of time I will try and chunk through these quite quickly. Can the department confirm how much funding each satellite headspace site will receive for the forward estimates and how much funding each full headspace site will receive over the forward estimates? Ms Edwards: The answer is: I'm not sure. I will take it on notice to provide you what we can. We've got a whole stack of breakdowns. Exactly the status of them I'm not sure. I could take it on notice. Senator O'NEILL: I am just try understand— Ms Edwards: You mean of the whole 145? Senator O'NEILL: We would love the detail of the whole 145, but there are announcements coming out about satellites and full headspaces now and it is pretty impossible to understand exactly what it is that's being committed. Ms Edwards: I would like to take it on notice.	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 87
SQ19-000400	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Polley, Helen	Registered nurse - dementia	Senator POLLEY: The requirement would suggest that there has to be an increase in staff. So, you're saying that there'd be one registered nurse 24/7. In terms of care workers with specialist training and experience in this dementia area, how many staff would that be? Mr Smith: That's not something I have in front of me. I'd have to take that on notice.	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 42
SQ19-000401	2 - Health Access and Support Services	O'Neill, Deborah	headspace National - satellite sites submission	ACTING CHAIR: What I mean is that headspace has made submissions to government that include the satellite arrangements. Is that right? Ms Edwards: I just got a message to suggest that the department didn't get a submission from headspace for satellites but that there might have been some discussion with the minister directly. So can I take that on notice? I don't have the full information on the extent to which headspace discussed satellites generally.	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 89
SQ19-000402	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Polley, Helen	Severe Behavioural Response teams	Senator POLLEY: Can you give us an update as to what that team's activity has been over the last 12 months? Mr Smith: The SBRTs? Senator POLLEY: Yes. Mr Smith: I'd have to take it on notice. Senator POLLEY: If you could give an indication of the number of call-outs, state by state, that's relevant to the decision to establish these units within the PHN district and how that relates to the number of times they've have been called out, that would be most useful. Mr Smith: Yes; no problem.	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 43

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PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000403	0 - Whole of Portfolio	Watt, Murray	Life checks campaign	<p>Ms Beauchamp: This was part of a campaign from the 2018-19 budget. I would probably have to take it on notice as to what approval process it went through.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Could you also take on notice what the cost of this particular campaign was and the date that these letters were sent?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Yes, I can.</p> <p>Senator WATT: But you think it was sent sometime over the last financial year?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: The 45-year and the 65-year checks were part of the 2018-19 budget, yes.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Just going back to that list of advertising and information campaigns that you tabled on Friday, that would be the life checks?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: The life checks were part of the 2018-19 budget.</p> <p>Senator WATT: And that looks like it cost \$220,000.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I'm not sure what was included in the whole campaign budget.</p> <p>Senator WATT: But, presumably, this letter was at least part of that \$220,000, if not all of it?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I can make that assumption directly, but I will take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Yes. Does it concern you that departmental funds were used to send out a letter to many Australians that was signed off by the Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I think the information it contained was definitely part of getting people to be aware of the policy decision that had been made in the budget. As for how our ministers have signed off on it, I will need to seek further advice on that.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Sure—and I'm not disputing any of the contents of the letter. I'm not going to get into whether the campaign itself is good or bad. But surely it's not acceptable for \$220,000 worth of departmental funds to be used to send a letter that's got a clear political reference in it.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I said I'd take on notice the \$220,000, because I don't know if this was the entirety or if there are other elements. I certainly know that there were other elements in terms of the websites and other information that was provided, but I don't actually know if it was included in the campaign funding.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Sure. However, some departmental costs were incurred in sending these letters out.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: From the footnote, it looks like yes.</p> <p>Senator WATT: What I'm asking is: does it concern you that departmental funds, whether it be \$220,000 or less, were used to send out to Australians a letter that contains a clear political reference to the Liberal Party?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Like I said, I'd take on notice the use of that signature block, but it does refer to the Treasurer and the Minister for Health.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 47
SQ19-000404	2 - Health Access and Support Services	O'Neill, Deborah	Headspace - Satellite sites	<p>Ms Edwards: Perhaps I could see whether somebody could give us an indicative amount of what a centre of a certain type costs compared to a satellite of a certain type and give you indicative numbers today.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: That would be good. I think they are emerging in media releases, but I can't quite see them clearly, so that would be helpful.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 88
SQ19-000405	0 - Whole of Portfolio	Watt, Murray	Campaign - funding advertising	<p>Senator WATT: Okay. To be precise then, in addition to the questions I've already asked that you've taken on notice, could you take on notice: what was the approval procedure for this particular letter and were any checks made to ensure that it did comply with all relevant advertising guidelines? Further to that, what I'm asking is whether steps have been taken to ensure that any information campaigns the department fund, whether they be above or below that \$250,000 threshold, comply with the advertising guidelines.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: Yes, and the normal guidelines in terms of any information and awareness materials.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 49
SQ19-000406	2 - Health Access and Support Services	O'Neill, Deborah	PHN signed contracts	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Have any PHNs signed?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I don't know the answer. I'll that it on notice, unless someone tells me—which they probably will in a moment.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: What date were they sent out?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: Some have signed—I don't know the answer to that.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Okay. So, I'm interested in: when it was sent out, and how many already signed it and returned it. I want to get a sense of the certainty of the continuity there or how vulnerable it really is still.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: It's entirely in their hands to return it to us.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: But each one of them has the offer?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: Yes.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: So some of them could be signed prior to the election?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: Yes, some have been already.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Of the 31, do you know how many?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: The little dots are going on my phone, so I suspect—</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: I'll go to my next question.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 91-92

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PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000407	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Urquhart, Anne	TAZREACH	<p>Ms Edwards: I'm just looking at the same press release as you, so bear with me as I work through it. My understanding is it will be \$14.7 million to support the Tasmanian rural health fund, TAZREACH, for the delivery of outreach specialist health services.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Over what time frame is it? How many years?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I may have to call upon one of my colleagues.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Can you give me how much in each year? I presume it's over more than one year, but can you take that down—over the number of years.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: We'll check if my colleague has that information now. Otherwise, we'll take it on notice and get it to you quickly. The relevant officer is here but he's just gone to get something to eat. Do you have other questions while we're waiting for him?</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 50
SQ19-000408	2 - Health Access and Support Services	O'Neill, Deborah	Adult Mental Health Centres	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Has each PHN been invited to put forward data?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: My notes are that we have been consulting with the PHNs on this, but I don't have any further information about it. I can take it on notice—the nature—</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Did you select PHNs to consult with, or did all PHNs have the opportunity to ask for one of these?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I'd have to take on notice the process. All I've got is that we've been talking to PHNs about it.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 94
SQ19-000409	1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation	Urquhart, Anne	Elective surgery	<p>Senator URQUHART: So I guess you can't tell me how many of what types of surgeries \$20 million will provide?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: We'll take that question on notice—</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: I am asking you now. You put out a press release—</p> <p>Senator Scullion: If I wasn't aware of the nature of the surgeries when it was \$34.7 million, I'm unlikely to because the number's changed. We'll take that on notice, simply because it was most likely to have been a ministerial agreement rather than a departmental agreement.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: I'm sure it was.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: I'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We did ask the states and territories for ideas and proposals around the community health and hospital fund, and, whilst I haven't seen some of the details of many of them, I'll take on notice whether other requests came through that process as well.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 54
SQ19-000410	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Urquhart, Anne	Funding for Eating Disorders	<p>Ms Edwards: Yes. There is \$18 million in 2018-19 and then, similar to what we were speaking about before, there is no allocation for 2019-20 and 2020-21. There is \$9 million in 2021-22, \$18 million in 2022-23 and the final \$9 million beyond the forward estimates. Again, the \$18 million this financial year, given that this is going through the PHNs, will be able to be allocated fairly quickly and then be used, including for capital works and so on, as required.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Why is that not broken down into—did you say there were five areas?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: There are four facilities. Actually, you are correct: there are five new facilities plus an additional investment for an existing facility. I don't have that material with me at the moment. I could take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Could someone get it this afternoon?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I don't think so.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: You don't have it at all?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: It may be that one of the teams could find it, but not quickly. (Hansard, 10 April 2019, p. 55) (Previously QoN SQ19-000410 which was removed in the updated index of 14 May 2019)</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 55
SQ19-000411	2 - Health Access and Support Services	O'Neill, Deborah	Adult Mental Health Centres	<p>...Senator Scullion: No. There is a selected PHN because the decision was to have one of these in each state and to have a slightly different demographic in each state.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: How many PHNs have you communicated with about this?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: Exactly the same number as there are outcomes. We'll take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: To be clear: the government has approached eight PHNs for consideration of participating in the adult mental health centre trial?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I don't think that we said anything about approaching PHNs.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Minister Scullion did.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: As I have indicated, we'll take that on notice—the exact number. But, as the officer indicated, this was in consultation with some PHNs. As to the exact number, I will have to take that on notice.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 94-95



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PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000412	3 - Sport and Recreation	Watt, Murray	Grants - Malvern Bowling Club	<p>Senator WATT: I asked you about this last week, I think. I think what you told me was that the minister did reject some grants that had been recommended for approval.</p> <p>Ms Palmer: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WATT: How many?</p> <p>Ms Palmer: I can't give you the detail. I can take that on notice. But I can give you an example of the type of thing that would occur. One in particular is related to the Malvern Bowling Club. In the space between the bowling club applying for the grant and us selecting them for recommendation, they received a grant for the same project from another government department, so the minister asked us to reconsider a recommendation on that, to fill that gap. That type of thing does occur from time to time.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 103
SQ19-000413	2 - Health Access and Support Services	O'Neill, Deborah	Mental Health Services	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Right. We understand that. We're waiting for the announcements. It looks like they're coming soon, because negotiations are already underway with eight PHNs. But not all 31 were invited to participate or put a bid in. Is that correct?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: I'll have to take that on notice. I'm not absolutely sure about that. Right at this moment I can't provide that information. We will take that on notice, though.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 95
SQ19-000414	2 - Health Access and Support Services	O'Neill, Deborah	Mental Health Services	<p>Senator O'NEILL: Minister Scullion, at this point in time, are you aware of any discussions with the states about where this would go? Are you aware of the PHN discussions? Are there any other discussions with the states?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: Not that I'm aware of, but I'll take that on notice and check.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 96
SQ19-000415	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Siewert, Rachel	Personality Disorders	<p>Ms Edwards: We think about suicide in relation to any of the people who may end up making that choice, including those who are mentally ill—traditionally in depression and schizophrenia and so on. But also there may be people who wouldn't have a mental illness diagnosis at all, and then you might have this group in the middle. So the work we're doing on suicide needs to cater for the full cohort who might find themselves in that circumstance, so it's something we'll take away to think about how we deal with that. Perhaps you could help us find the research.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I'm happy to send you the information.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: That would be great.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That would be very much appreciated, if you could take that on notice. I appreciate what you've said, but 10 per cent, I would say, is a significant proportion.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 97
SQ19-000416	3 - Sport and Recreation	Watt, Murray	Grants	<p>Senator WATT: You don't know the number of grants that the minister rejected that had been recommended?</p> <p>Ms Palmer: No. This is subject to the National Audit Office audit through the process. I expect that that process will uncover all of the details around that. We received and processed 2,000 applications over a period of weeks, so it's quite a complex, detailed process. That audit, I think, will give us the information we need around that step.</p> <p>Senator WATT: If you can't give me a precise number, are we talking double figures?</p> <p>Ms Palmer: I don't know. I'm sorry. I'll have to take that on notice.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 103
SQ19-000417	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Siewert, Rachel	Personality Disorders - NHMRC Guidelines	<p>Senator SIEWERT: My understanding is that the NHMRC guidelines, for example, are quite old now. I'm wondering, Professor, if you're aware of whether there's any talk of refreshing those guidelines or any move to refresh them.</p> <p>Prof. Murphy: I'm not aware of any move. I'm on the NHMRC. I haven't had any word of that. I would have to take that on notice to be absolutely sure.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That would be appreciated. Has there been any money allocated to look at an evaluation and audit of the current guidelines? Are you aware of that?</p> <p>Prof. Murphy: I'm not aware of any, but again we can—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take that on notice?</p> <p>Prof. Murphy: Yes.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 98

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PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000418	3 - Sport and Recreation	Watt, Murray	Recommended number of grants	<p>Senator WATT: How many grants have you recommended? Are we calling this round 3?</p> <p>Ms Palmer: Yes, it is round 3.</p> <p>ACTING CHAIR: Please don't steal the minister's thunder, Ms Palmer!</p> <p>Senator WATT: I'm sure Ms Palmer's not going to announce them.</p> <p>ACTING CHAIR: I don't know where your questions are going to go.</p> <p>Ms Palmer: I'm sorry; I'll have to take it on notice. I don't know how many we have recommended. It would be for the full value of the budget, though.</p> <p>Senator WATT: I would appreciate it if you could let us know this evening the number you've recommended.</p> <p>Ms Palmer: We will, yes.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 104
SQ19-000419	3 - Sport and Recreation	Watt, Murray	Funding for facilities - Grange Thistle Football Club	<p>Senator WATT: When I popped back to Brisbane yesterday I noticed that the local member, the member for Brisbane, had popped out to the Grange Thistle Football Club yesterday morning and made an announcement of funding for facilities. My understanding is that that club had made an application for funding under this program.</p> <p>I'm sure that the fact that the member for Brisbane made this announcement had nothing to do with the fact that the Deputy Leader of the Opposition was going to make an election commitment at that club two hours later! Do you know whether the Grange Thistle Football Club has at any point been recommended for funding under this program?</p> <p>Ms Palmer: No, but I can take that on notice and provide an answer reasonably quickly.</p> <p>Senator WATT: It may be that that funding is coming from outside your department—</p> <p>Ms Palmer: It could be, yes.</p> <p>Senator WATT: in the same way that the other one is. But I'd be interested to know. I suppose what I'm asking is: has the department recommended that the club receive funding?</p> <p>Ms Palmer: No. It's the role of Sport Australia to recommend—I don't know. I can check to see if they applied as part of the process. We may have recommended, but I don't know whether that's the case or not.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Can you come back to me on that, please?</p> <p>Ms Palmer: I'll take it on notice.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 104
SQ19-000420	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Siewert, Rachel	Personality Disorders	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Have you had any consultation with people who have BPD? Have they been engaged in any of the consultation processes that the department has been undertaking in investment in mental health?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I'd have to take that on notice. I'm not aware of any.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can you take on notice whether there has been any consultation?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Also, could you take on notice whether you have looked at the data on the number of deaths from suicide to see whether in Australia we're seeing that same global 10 per cent figure, which is what I'm being told? There are a lot of people who think that's being reflected here. Is there any work being undertaken at all to have a deeper look at those deaths from suicide?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: In relation to borderline personality disorder?</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 98

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PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000421	3 - Sport and Recreation	Watt, Murray	Surveys	<p>Senator WATT: Are there other Department of Health surveys that have been opt-in in the way this one has been and circulated by vested interests in the way this one has?</p> <p>Mr Boyley: Senator, when you say 'opt-in'—it's certainly not a mandatory survey. We don't do mandatory surveys on people. Every survey we would do would have an element of opt-in. As for whether it has gone out to particular—we engage with stakeholders that have an interest. That's part of gathering stakeholder feedback.</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We've procured the impact assessment, and the methodology has been up to the provider to gather that information. They've seen fit to use a survey as part of developing the report that's due to us in terms of assessing the economic health and wellbeing impact of shooting in Australia.</p> <p>Senator WATT: What steps were taken to ensure that respondents only answered once and that they answered truthfully?</p> <p>Mr Boyley: I would need to take that on notice, Senator. I don't—</p> <p>Senator Scullion: Senator Watt, are you somehow suggesting that this demographic is untruthful or dishonest?</p> <p>Senator WATT: No.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: Well, why the question?</p> <p>Senator WATT: What other survey is there that you'd like to compare this to?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: An automated survey on road use. You pick your phone, and they say, 'I encourage you to participate in this survey if you're a car owner.'</p> <p>Senator WATT: Has the department funded a survey for people who are fans of motoring?</p> <p>Senator Scullion: This is the same as any other survey. We want the sector to be aware of it.</p> <p>Senator WATT: I'm asking the department.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: If it were a golfing survey, in Golf Australia you'd say 'participate in this survey'.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Have you funded a survey about golf?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: We fund various surveys. In terms of methodology, the consultant has chosen to use a survey. We can take on notice the efficacy of that survey in terms of the report that's being undertaken.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 108
SQ19-000422	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Siewert, Rachel	Personality Disorders	<p>Senator SIEWERT: I realise that I'm probably straying into the next section. In terms of the MBS and the 10 Better Access visits, the government has announced that it has increased it for eating disorders, which is very welcome.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Has there been any consideration of any other disorders for which that might be useful? Of course, I'm at the moment thinking about BPD.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: We will have to direct that to the MBS team, because obviously they have all the clinical committees that would have considered these things.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 99
SQ19-000423	3 - Sport and Recreation	Watt, Murray	Board appointment	<p>Senator WATT: Final question: the appointment of Mr Hugh Delahunty to the board of Sport Australia, which is one of the barrage of appointments we're seeing from the government in its final days—what was the process for his appointment? Was he recommended? Was it a decision of the minister?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: It was a decision of the minister, and it went through the normal process of where significant appointments go through our cabinet.</p> <p>Senator WATT: So there was no selection process other than the decision of the minister?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: There was a process the minister put in place to look at advice from not only the department but also a group that sought expressions of interest from a range of different people.</p> <p>Senator WATT: And did he express interest?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I'd have to take that on notice.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 109
SQ19-000424	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Watt, Murray	Policy premiums	<p>Senator WATT: Is the department aware of instances of some top-cover policies rising in their premiums by over seven per cent on 1 April, which is four times the inflation rate and twice the 3.25 per cent average the minister claims is occurring?</p> <p>Ms Shakespeare: The average is an average. It's the average across all policies. It's an average across all of the insurers and all of the policies. There are individual differences between policies and insurers.</p> <p>Senator WATT: So you're aware that there are some of the higher level policies where the premium is increasing by over seven per cent?</p> <p>Ms Shakespeare: I'm not personally familiar with individual policy increases. We could investigate that on notice for you if you like.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 111

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PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000425	5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection	Siewert, Rachel	Meshes	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Therefore, is the Commonwealth talking to the states and territories about doing this very thing?</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: Yes. The minister actually wrote, in October 2018, to all the state and territory health ministers, emphasising the importance of the set of recommendations writ large, but also highlighting in this case that looking retrospectively at meshes, going up to 20 years back, will require the cooperation of states and territories. It will be hard for many of the states and territories to do this because, especially in some states, records are not there for the full 20 years. They might be on handwritten theatre cards in some private facilities. So, sadly, obtaining a complete picture of every procedure that's been done since 1998 or 1999 is going to be impossible. But the minister has written to his state and territory counterparts asking them to do as much as they can.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Have the states responded?</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: I can't answer that. I haven't seen. We can take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take on notice which states have responded, and—</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: And what was said.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: the nature of the response?</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: We can, Senator.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 114
SQ19-000426	5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection	Watt, Murray	Pelvic floor surgery	<p>Senator WATT: Let's bring it home! On a similar issue—I don't think these have been covered by Senator Siewert—in relation to the government's announcement on 5 April about \$2.3 million to improve the safety of pelvic floor surgery, is the \$2.3 million announced provided for in the budget?</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: I don't believe it was a specific budget measure, so I don't have details of which outcome it will fall under, unless others are aware.</p> <p>Mr McBride: It wasn't a budget measure, Senator. It will be funded from departmental.</p> <p>Senator WATT: It was not a budget measure?</p> <p>Mr McBride: No.</p> <p>Senator WATT: It'll be funded from departmental resources?</p> <p>Mr McBride: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WATT: How is that funding going to be distributed over the three years? I think it was an announcement over three years.</p> <p>Mr McBride: It was over three years. That hasn't been determined. Presumably there'll be set-up costs, so most of it will be front-loaded, but they're the things we will start working through with the states.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Is the first year of funding the 2019-20 financial year?</p> <p>Mr McBride: That's the objective.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Is the \$2.3 million for capital costs or for the operation of the registry?</p> <p>Mr McBride: It will be set-up costs, so it will possibly be a combination of the two.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Set-up costs as in capital to set up a registry?</p> <p>Mr McBride: If necessary.</p> <p>Senator WATT: And also operational costs?</p> <p>Mr McBride: Correct.</p> <p>Senator WATT: But there has been no real breakdown yet of that into capital and operational?</p> <p>Mr McBride: I think, when we were working through this, we did some initial calculations, but I don't have them with me, sorry.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Could you take on notice whether you did some initial costings?</p> <p>Mr McBride: Certainly.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 115

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PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000427	5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection	Watt, Murray	Cosmetic and fragrance ingredients	<p>Senator WATT: These last ones are for the TGA. Obviously the TGA's doing some consultation regarding the review of chemical scheduling in relation to cosmetic and fragrance ingredients?</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: Yes, we are.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Something with which I have no familiarity whatsoever!</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: We've done some targeted consultation on that. It arose from a commitment with the medicines and medical devices review to look at the scheduling system. We have done a thorough look at medicine scheduling, and this is the final piece in that puzzle.</p> <p>Senator WATT: So the consultation has begun or finished?</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: This is very process oriented. It's really about, for example, whether groups of chemicals or fragrances that have a similar use—for example, hair dyes—should be considered as a group for chemical scheduling purposes rather than on an ad-hoc, one-on-one basis. The stakeholders that have been consulted with to date have mainly been those involved in putting in submissions, because it's largely about administrative processes around chemical scheduling and also looking at whether there are other sources of evidence that the committee should take into account when they make a recommendation to the decision-maker about scheduling. It's pretty arcane stuff.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Who was actually consulted?</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: I don't have the list in front of me. I'm happy to take that on notice. I know there are a couple of dozen other organisations and groups, ranging from other parts of the department through to industry groups and other stakeholders interested in chemicals. We can take that list on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Yes. Do you have any idea roughly how many groups?</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: As I said, I think it was somewhere between 20 and 40. I don't think I've seen the actual list.</p> <p>Senator WATT: When were consultations opened and closed?</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: Again, I'd have to take those dates on notice. It was a consultation over the last couple of months.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 116
SQ19-000428	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Griff, Stirling	Review of Guidelines	What prompted the review of the 2009 guidelines?	Written
SQ19-000429	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Griff, Stirling	Guidelines - alcohol pregnant and breastfeeding women	Will the new guidelines be more explicit in specifying that there is no safe level of drinking for pregnant and breastfeeding women?	Written
SQ19-000430	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Griff, Stirling	Safety limit	<p>The SMH reported that the current so-called safety limit is set at a 1/100 chance of disease related death. <a href="https://www.smh.com.au/lifestyle/health-and-wellness/no-safe-level-what-we-re-getting-wrong-with-alcohol-guidelines-20190301-p5117n.html">https://www.smh.com.au/lifestyle/health-and-wellness/no-safe-level-what-we-re-getting-wrong-with-alcohol-guidelines-20190301-p5117n.html</a></p> <p>a.Is that too high a risk?</p> <p>b.How was that modelled?</p>	Written
SQ19-000431	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Griff, Stirling	Revised safety limit	<p>Will the new guidelines be underpinned by a revised safety limit/risk of death and disease?</p> <p>a.What is that expected to be set at?</p> <p>b.What modelling or guidelines will be used as reference?</p>	Written
SQ19-000432	5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection	Griff, Stirling	Anaplastic large cell lymphoma	Given me (BIA-ALCL) can occur 8-10 years after implantation, would the follow-up and tracing of affected patients be easier if the Australian Breast Device registry had been setup and made mandatory 10 years ago?	Written
SQ19-000433	5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection	Griff, Stirling	BIA-ALCL reported	Why is the TGA only calling for information from suppliers 10 years after the first cases of BIA-ALCL were reported?	Written
SQ19-000434	5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection	Griff, Stirling	BIA-ALCL - seeking further data	Why hasn't the TGA suspended use of the implants while seeking further data, rather than continuing their use and potentially putting more Australian at risk?	Written
SQ19-000435	5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection	Griff, Stirling	Withdrawn access to implants	Regulators in France, Canada and the Netherlands have withdrawn these implants from the market. Do they have access to different data?	Written
SQ19-000436	5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection	Griff, Stirling	Microcell	5.The Allergan MICROCELL textured breast prosthesis was withdrawn for sale in Europe late last year, after the French regulator reportedly asked for a recall following the expiration of the product's certification in the EU. Why is this prosthesis still being sold in Australia (even with a European approval mark before December 17, 2018)?	Written
SQ19-000437	5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection	Griff, Stirling	Risk ratio	Is the risk ratio of 1:2800 cases an acceptable risk to allow ongoing delay in deciding to withdraw this implant?	Written
SQ19-000438	5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection	Griff, Stirling	Prostheses withdrawn or not approved	Is Australia acting as a dumping ground for prostheses withdrawn or not approved for sale in Europe?	Written
SQ19-000439	5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection	Griff, Stirling	Decision in Europe to ban the same of textured breast implants	<p>Re the decision in Europe to ban the same of textured breast implants: Will the department recommend that surgeon use of the Australian Breast Device registry become mandatory?</p> <p>a.If not, why not?</p>	Written

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PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000440	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Griff, Stirling	National Aged Care Quality Indicator Program	I refer to the National Aged Care Quality Indicator Program. What training and resources are being offered to aged care facilities to get them up to speed on the QI program before July commencement?	Written
SQ19-000441	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Griff, Stirling	Data for three indicators	When will data for the three indicators be published on the My Aged Care website?	Written
SQ19-000442	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Griff, Stirling	Data	Will the data be provided for each aged care facility?	Written
SQ19-000443	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Griff, Stirling	Two new quality indicators	During the April 10 hearing, Ms Jolly made reference to the "further development of the two new quality indicators". Please specify exactly what those two indicators are expected to measure. a. When are they expected to be rolled out? b. Are rates of falls being considered as a future indicator?	Written
SQ19-000444	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Griff, Stirling	Benchmarks and data	In reference to SQ19-000215, the department said "National benchmarks or reference ranges will be developed in consultation with key stakeholders and clinical/data experts once there is sufficient data". Given the program has been running on a voluntary basis since 2016, how long does the department anticipate it will take to collect sufficient data to develop benchmarks for each indicator? a. What process will occur to establish that the data collected is reliable and accurate, and how long is this analysis expected to take?	Written
SQ19-000445	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Griff, Stirling	Program data and risk profiling	Re SQ19-000166. The department said it is "exploring the option of using program data to inform risk profiling". Will this be at an individual facility level? a. How will this be used to monitor and improve facility performance?	Written
SQ19-000446	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Griff, Stirling	Getting it Right First Time Program (UK)	Is the department aware of GIRFT and the savings and decreased litigation it has produced for the NHS? a. If so, has the department had any discussions with UK counterparts about the program or made any inquiry about it?	Written
SQ19-000447	2 - Health Access and Support Services	Griff, Stirling	Getting it Right First Time program (UK) structural impediments	What would be the structural impediments to getting such a program off the ground nationally in Australia?	Written
SQ19-000448	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Griff, Stirling	Home care compliance	Has work started on the development of a home care compliance framework?	Written
SQ19-000449	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Griff, Stirling	Compliance framework	When is the compliance framework expected to be completed?	Written
SQ19-000450	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Griff, Stirling	Home Care Compliance Review pilot	Referring to SQ19-00161: Please detail exactly what was in scope for the Home Care Compliance Review pilot.	Written
SQ19-000451	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Griff, Stirling	Estimate of fiscal gap	Did the pilot make any estimate of the fiscal gap between services contracted and actually received by consumers?	Written
SQ19-000452	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Griff, Stirling	Reviewing of processes	Re SQ19-000162 and the statement that the Department of Health and Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission already have processes in place to address quality and compliance issues in aged care. Given the "opportunities for improvement" outlined in SQ19-000161, as revealed by the pilot, will the department be reviewing these processes?	Written
SQ19-000453	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	CEO of Sound Radiology	Is the Department aware that Sound Radiology is located in Parkside, a wealthy suburb within the electorate of Boothby and that the CEO of Sound Radiology is a vice-president of the South Australian Liberal Party? Does it have any concerns about this?	Written
SQ19-000454	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Bulk billing	Is the Department aware that Sound Radiology is not a bulk billing practice but a private practice, and is not co-located with either a public or private hospital?	Written
SQ19-000455	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	MRI licenses	Is the Department aware that applications were made for MRI licenses in Victor Harbor (85km from the Adelaide CBD) and Gawler (58km from the CBD) but that these were unsuccessful?	Written
SQ19-000456	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Radius of MRI machines	There are currently 5 existing full licenses, 7 partial licenses and 8 non rebate eligible MRI machines within a 3km radius of Sound Radiology, so why has Parkside has been identified as a location of true need?	Written
SQ19-000457	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Data regarding number of fully eligible MRI units	The Department released data regarding the number of fully eligible MRI units per 100,000 people to assist in identifying true need areas. Country SA PHN has a per capita availability of 0.6, while Adelaide PHN is at 0.7 per capita availability – so how did a private practice in leafy Parkside rank higher than a hospital in Gawler or a hospital in Victor Harbor?	Written
SQ19-000458	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	MRI license	What assurances did SA Health, on behalf of Riverland General Hospital, provide to the Department about their ability to purchase and operate the MRI license?	Written
SQ19-000459	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Application requirements	What happens to the license if the hospital does not have an operational MRI unit at that location by 31 December 2020, as per application requirements?	Written
SQ19-000460	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Medicare eligibility	Mandatory criteria requires that the applicant agrees to retain the Medicare eligibility for the MRI unit at that location for three years. Does that mean they are free to transfer it to a more profitable location at the conclusion of three years?	Written

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SQ19-000461	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Time limit imposed on a MRI license	Is this the first time a time limit has been imposed on a MRI license? a.If yes, why three years? b.Is it the Department's intention to monitor and review the three year time limit? c.If no, how many license holders elected to move locations following the completion of three years? And where did they move to?	Written
SQ19-000462	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Scripts dispensed	Regarding the reported reversal of the plan to allow scripts to be dispensed for 2 months at a time (instead of current 1 month) <a href="https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html">https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html</a> Please advise what modelling the department has done on the benefits of moving to scripts being dispensed for 2 months at a time instead of 1 month? a.Were any other variations considered (eg three or four months for medications for stable conditions?)	Written
SQ19-000463	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Script repeats	Regarding the reported reversal of the plan to allow scripts to be dispensed for 2 months at a time (instead of current 1 month) <a href="https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html">https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html</a> If a patient gets a script from their doctor for six months of medication (say for antihypertensives) entailing 5 repeats, and doesn't need to see their doctor in between, what is the rationale for them seeing a pharmacist every month?	Written
SQ19-000464	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Supply	Regarding the reported reversal of the plan to allow scripts to be dispensed for 2 months at a time (instead of current 1 month) <a href="https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html">https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html</a> What is the evidence that providing patients 2 or 3 months' supply would be any less safe than the current regime?	Written
SQ19-000465	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Pharmacy funding	Regarding the reported reversal of the plan to allow scripts to be dispensed for 2 months at a time (instead of current 1 month) <a href="https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html">https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html</a> Is the hit to pharmacy funding the main driver for the reversal of this planned change?	Written
SQ19-000466	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Projected cost saving	Regarding the reported reversal of the plan to allow scripts to be dispensed for 2 months at a time (instead of current 1 month) <a href="https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html">https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html</a> What is the projected cost saving of moving to 2 month supplies being dispensed i) to government and ii) to consumers?	Written
SQ19-000467	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Regulation 24 scripts	Regarding the reported reversal of the plan to allow scripts to be dispensed for 2 months at a time (instead of current 1 month) <a href="https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html">https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html</a> What proportion of scripts are dispensed as Regulation 24 (which allows the script and all repeats to be dispensed at once)? a. Is there any evidence that this practice leads to any worse outcomes for patients?	Written
SQ19-000468	4 - Individual Health Benefits	Griff, Stirling	Multi month packs	Regarding the reported reversal of the plan to allow scripts to be dispensed for 2 months at a time (instead of current 1 month) <a href="https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html">https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/greg-hunt-shelves-plan-for-two-month-scripts-after-pharmacist-backlash-20190328-p518gw.html</a> Is there evidence that providing patients with multi month packs improves outcomes (for eg patients are less likely to run out and miss doses)?	Written

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PDR No	Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Type of Question: Hansard/Written
SQ19-000471	6 - Ageing and Aged Care	Polley, Helen	My Aged Care	<p>Ms Beauchamp: We can take on notice what we've spent on My Aged Care and what enhancements have been made or what changes have been made over that period, and they've been quite substantial.</p> <p>Ms Buffinton: It's actually an aged care IT system that runs My Aged Care the IT system as opposed to My Aged Care the website. I just want to be clear that they're two different issues.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: If you can provide that information, that would be very helpful. Ms Buffinton: I'd be happy to do that.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 36
SQ19-000472	2 - Health Access and Support Services	O'Neill, Deborah	Mental Health	<p>Ms Edwards: The key document that we talked about, which hadn't been released—I didn't want to steal headspace national's thunder—is their survey Increasing Demand in Youth Mental Health, which you may or may not have seen. It was released on Friday night by headspace national. It's on their website but is a bit tricky to find.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Perhaps you could table it now, because I definitely have not read it.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I can after I finish talking, because I've only got one copy. If you search for 'increasing demand in youth mental health' it comes up, but 'waiting lists' does not. That's the trick. I will table it after I finish talking about it.</p> <p>Senator O'NEILL: Thank you.</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 82
SQ19-000474	1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation	Urquhart, Anne	Tasmanian Health System	<p>Senator URQUHART: My question is: have you talked to the Tasmanian government about providing them with \$34.7 million and how they could then use that in surgeries?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I haven't yet, no.</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: The department hasn't—is that right?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator URQUHART: Ms Beauchamp?</p> <p>Ms Beauchamp: I'm not aware of the discussions.</p> <p>Senator Scullion: That would only leave another level that it would've taken place at, and it most certainly would've been a conversation at ministerial level. No doubt the health system in Tasmania would have a very good understanding of its needs. They've acknowledged that they've got a waiting list for surgeries. So no doubt they have about 6,000 procedures, including endoscopies, and they require around \$34.7 million—that would've been the calculation. Now, I'll take that on notice, but what I'm offering is that, quite clearly, the only people we've got left are going to be at ministerial level, and that could well have been the case, and I think it'll be useful for the committee if I take that on notice. (Hansard, 10 April 2019, pp. 53–54)</p>	10/04/2019 - Proof Hansard Page 53-54