



Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2019-20
Wednesday, 4 March 2020
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Community Affairs Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am until 10.44pm.

The committee called:

- department and agencies of the Health portfolio, including all Outcomes 1—6 and the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, Australian Digital Health Agency, National Mental Health Commission, Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority, Australian Sports Commission, Cancer Australia, Therapeutic Goods Administration and Office of Drug Control.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- Coronavirus (COVID-19), including the number of confirmed cases, infection rate, travel bans, and quarantine practices;
- implications of Coronavirus for older Australians and aged care facilities;
- stockpile of medicines;
- sports grants administration;
- mental health needs of people in bushfire affected regions;
- interim report of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety;
- funding for Headspace centres;
- Government response to the committee's inquiry into support for Australia's Thalidomide survivors; and
- bulk billing rates.

The committee will next meet at 9.00am on Thursday, 5 March in Committee Room 2S1, calling:

- department and agencies of the Social Services portfolio, including, the National Disability Insurance Scheme Launch Transition Agency (NDIA), NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission, Digital Transformation Agency, Hearing Australia, and Services Australia.