

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-014

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: Health Workforce Fund

Type of Question: Hansard Page 61, 13 February 2013

Senator: Senator Fierravanti-Wells

Question:

The Health Workforce Guidelines indicate there is approximately \$35 million until 2013-14. Which of the 35 initiatives listed in the fund relates to this and the financial years involved?

Answer:

The 2011-12 Budget outlined the consolidation of the 159 Health and Ageing programs into 18 Flexible Funds, including the Health Workforce Fund (HWF), which received a budget allocation of \$3.7 billion.

The HWF Guidelines refer to \$35 million available over the 2011-12 to 2013-14 financial years. This \$35 million referred to monies not under legal contract or not committed to specific activities at that time, not to individual programs. The HWF Guidelines also noted that these funds may be allocated to activities that met the priorities of the Fund, including evaluation activities.

As a result of previous allocations to projects and 2012-13 Budget saving measures the HWF is currently fully committed.