

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-056

OUTCOME 2: Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: Chemotherapy Drugs

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Senator Boyce

Question:

Why does the Department continue to argue that the funding must come out of the Fifth Community Agreement when it was clear that the funding cuts arose originally out of an unworkable budget measure in 2008 and is currently being funded by the EFC Budget measure of 2010 and not the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement?

Answer:

Remuneration for dispensing of chemotherapy medicines is a component of the \$13.8 billion allocated in the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement for dispensing of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme medicines.