

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

**Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015, 25 February 2015**

**Ref No: SQ15-000149**

**OUTCOME:** 2 - Access to Pharmaceutical Services

**Topic:** New Community Pharmacy Agreement

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Xenophon, Nick

**Question:**

Does the department take into account that an increasing number of community pharmacies are under enormous financial pressure because of accelerated price disclosure?

**Answer:**

As announced by the Minister for Health, the Hon Sussan Ley on 12 February, the Department of Health is taking into consideration the views of all stakeholders, including pharmacy owners, on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and its future, as well as the Sixth Community Pharmacy Agreement.