

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-054

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: CONSUMER ACCESS TO AGED CARE GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORTS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Adams asked:

Can the Department provide any evidence of the extent to which consumers are seeking access to the GPFRs? Information I have received from providers indicate that of the 55,000 new admissions per year, on average it is less than five. Can the Department confirm that this is correct?

Answer:

The Department does not have access to any record of how many new residents have sought access to the service providers' general purpose financial reports.

However, under legislative arrangements in previous years, providers were required to submit an annual statement attesting that they had complied with the reporting requirements to receive the Conditional Adjustment Payment. One of the questions on that statement asked providers whether current or prospective residents had asked for access to their organisation's annual financial report and that they had indeed been given access. More than 30 per cent of providers answered that they had been asked for a copy of their annual financial report.