

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-057

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: INCREASED COSTS TO AGED CARE PROVIDERS RELATING TO GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORTS (GPFR)

Written Question on Notice

Senator Adams asked:

Will the Department liaise with the industry about a better way for gathering financial information and using it in a more meaningful way to both improve financial benchmarking and being able to provide useful financial reports for consumers to use especially when considering entry into care?

Answer:

General consultations with the aged care peak bodies on the benefits of establishing a benchmarking service have been conducted over several years.

A specific industry benchmarking reference group is currently being established to consult industry stakeholders on how to deliver the Government's new benchmarking project in a way that benefits the aged care industry while minimising the administrative burden. There will be opportunities to consider the information needs of consumers as part of this project.