

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-432

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: AGED CARE PROVIDERS - BENCHMARKING

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

In the 20010-11 Budget, the government announced \$7 million for a benchmarking tool and business advisory services so that aged care providers can compare and improve business practices.

- a) Has the tender process been completed?
- b) Who was the successful tenderer?
- c) What are the timelines for the benchmarking tool to be implemented?
- d) What are the timelines for the implementation of the business advisory services?
- e) What will the cost to providers for accessing the services?
- f) Will the cost be calculated on the same basis for all providers?
- g) If not, what will be the eligibility for any subsidized services?

Answer:

- a) Yes.
- b) Forms Administration Pty Ltd.
- c) The initiative is being progressively implemented with the pilot testing commencing in July 2011. It is expected that the benchmarking website will go live by September 2011 with comparative benchmarking data becoming available in March 2012, and that evaluation and enhancement of the website will be completed before the end of 2011-12.

- d) The financial advisory services component of the project is still under consideration but it is planned that support for the advisory services will be in place before March 2012.
- e) Funding and charging issues for these services are still under consideration.
- f) See answer to question e) above.
- g) See answer to question e) above.