

Budget Estimates 2013-2014 - Index to Questions on Notice - DoHA

QoN No.	Agency/ Outcome	Senator	Broad Topic	QUESTION	Hansard/ Ref
1	2	Xenophon	Stroke Prevention Medicines	A recently published study of strokes in Western Adelaide by leading researchers from Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Royal Adelaide, University of Adelaide, and Flinders University has highlighted that atrial fibrillation accounted for over 35% of all strokes, of which 85% were inadequately treated with stroke prevention medicines. a) Can the Department indicate when the new oral anticoagulants will be listed? b) Can the department explain why the new oral anti-coagulants have not been listed, given that over a year has passed since a review demonstrated around 40-60% of patients are untreated and at high risk of stroke? And over two years of since positive recommendation from its PBAC have passed? c) Can the Minister outline why the new oral anticoagulants have to be considered yet again by Cabinet when one of these medicines, Pradaxa, waited 5 months for cabinet consideration, then faced a review and is still not listed almost two years after this? d) Can the Minister rule out conducting any more reviews like its Review of Anticoagulation Therapies in Atrial Fibrillation for any new medicines recommended for listing on the PBS by the PBAC but not yet listed? e) Is the Government not satisfied with the independent advice of its advisory committee, the PBAC?	Written QoN
2	1	Xenophon	Quitline	a) How much Federal Government funding has been allocated to Quitline in the 2013-2014 Budget? b) How many telephone operators worked for Quitline during the 2012-2013 financial year? c) How many telephone operators will be working for Quitline this financial year? d) How many days per week and hours per day does Quitline operate for? e) How many calls did Quitline receive during the last financial year? f) Of these calls, how many were new clients and how many were clients that had contacted Quitline before?	Written QoN
3	1	Xenophon	Metal-on-Metal Joint Prostheses	a) Has the department commissioned any research into the performance of metal-on-metal joint prostheses, or is it following any of the research being conducted overseas? b) What is the department's current position on the safety of metal-on-metal devices?	Written QoN
4	1	Xenophon	Metal-on-Metal Joint Prostheses	a) Has the TGA become aware of any issues with other metal-on-metal joint prostheses since the DePuy case? b) How many have been withdrawn from the market? c) When did this occur? d) Has the TGA commissioned any research or is it following any of the overseas research? e) What is the TGA's current position on metal-on-metal devices?	Written QoN
5	1	Xenophon	Medical Device Sponsors	a) What role does the TGA play in monitoring the activities of medical device sponsors? b) If the TGA plays no role, who does?	Written QoN
6	1	Xenophon	Medical Devices	Clearly, the TGA's mandate relates to consumer protection through the control and regulation of medicines and medical devices. Under what circumstances does this extend to examining companies seeking to sponsor devices in Australia, particularly small or medium sized companies?	Written QoN
7	1	Boyce	Palliative Care	According to the AIHW - palliative care admissions rose by more than 50% between 2001-2010. a) Could you provide me with the detailed planning that has been undertaken by the Department since 2001 to deal with these substantial increases in care demand, given they were predicted by the system and its experts in the decades leading up to 2001? b) What resources are being directed to this problem now?	Written QoN
8	1	Boyce	Palliative Care	According to the AIHW - palliative care admissions rose by more than 50% between 2001-2010. a) How many dedicated fully or partly Commonwealth funded palliative care beds are there in Australia? b) How many are there in Queensland.	Written QoN
9	1	Boyce	Palliative Care	According to the AIHW - palliative care admissions rose by more than 50% between 2001-2010. a) With 56,000 palliative care admissions in the year 2009-2010 (AIHW) - given the clear shortfall between available palliative care beds and current palliative care admissions - where do patients go, what happens to them? b) Would not this gap, this shortfall between demand and supply suggest - your 'planning' has been deficient? c) What's the core problem - funding or priority?	Written QoN

10	3	Boyce	Rebate Shortfalls	Given the impact of inflation what would be the present value of medical benefits compared to five or six years ago?	Written QoN
11	3	Boyce	Rebate Shortfalls	When was the last review of Medicare done and as it is now 40 years old is there any plan to review it in the near future?	Written QoN
12	3	Boyce	Rebate Shortfalls	What is your current definition of universal health cover- has that changed over time and if not, is there now a large and growing gap between the concept and reality?	Written QoN
13	3	Boyce	Rebate Shortfalls	Why are a number of procedures considered essential for cancer diagnosis and treatment, such as MRI's or targeted MRI led biopsies of tumours NOT rebatable under current Medicare provisions?	Written QoN
14	9	Boyce	Private Hospital Standards/Out of pocket expenses	a) Does the Department have current or even recent data that identifies what private hospitals have or who ever had a 'C-triple-minus' rating? b) Does anyone know how many substandard private hospitals there are in Queensland? c) Is this material in the public domain so health consumers are properly informed and can make intelligent decisions about where they have medical procedures performed?	Written QoN
15	9	Boyce	Private Hospital Standards/Out of pocket expenses	a) Dr Michael Armitage CEO of the Private Healthcare Australia (PHA) has been quoted as saying; "There are a whole lot of hospitals C-Triple-Minus and we just keep backing the truck full of gold bars to pay them." Is this fair comment? b) Do you have any information that would counter such a view? c) Are there appropriate sanctions for C-Triple-Minus performers?	Written QoN
16	9	Boyce	Private Hospital Standards/Out of pocket expenses	Australia has been recently listed as the fifth most expensive country in the world for out of pocket medical expenses - these costs for Australians are more than double what citizens of France or the UK have to pay. It's further claimed that 14,000 Australians have sought early access to their super funds in order to pay medical bills. 8.7 per cent of people won't even see a doctor because they can longer afford to. a) What's your response to this situation? b) Do these facts suggest we need better health insurance products?	Written QoN
17	13	Boyce	Dementia Treatment	According to a study by the AIHW -our hospitals are failing to correctly identify patients with dementia - and that this systemic failure leads to as many as 50 per cent of hospital patients who have dementia not being identified.[1] This according to the study causes the following; * Inadequate treatment[2] * Longer hospital stays(16.4 days as opposed to 8.9 days) [3] * Higher treatment costs (\$7720 - \$5010) [4] * Makes hospitals a dangerous place for dementia sufferers[5] The study illustrates: * Poor communication and coordination between health services[6] * Only 1 in 5 hospital staff with dementia training [7] Given that Dementia is and has been one of the Federal Government's national health priorities why, in 2013, are our hospitals still handling the issue so badly? Could you respond please in relation to each of the seven points above?	Written QoN
18	13	Boyce	Dementia Treatment	According to a study by the AIHW -our hospitals are failing to correctly identify patients with dementia - and that this systemic failure leads to as many as 50 per cent of hospital patients who have dementia not being identified. [1]This according to the study causes the following; * Inadequate treatment[2] * Longer hospital stays(16.4 days as opposed to 8.9 days) [3] * Higher treatment costs (\$7720 - \$5010) [4] * Makes hospitals a dangerous place for dementia sufferers[5] The study illustrates: * Poor communication and coordination between health services[6] * Only 1 in 5 hospital staff with dementia training [7] Given that there are currently 322,000 Australians suffering from this condition and that number is expected to triple by 2050 what urgent steps is the Department taking to do much, much better? Could you respond please in relation to each of the seven points above?	Written QoN
19	5	Boyce	Minor Trauma Clinics	It has come to my attention that the team at Metro North in Brisbane are trialling something they have called 'Smart Clinics' but which I believe within the Department are known as "Minor Trauma Clinics' as a means of diverting minor matters from our overcrowded hospital emergency departments. a) How many of these trials are being conducted across Australia and where are they? b) What is their rationale? c) Where is the funding for this coming from and how much is it going to cost. d) How long is the trial, how will its success be measured and what would be the criteria would need to be satisfied for the trials to become a program? What are for example its KPI's? e) What savings are expected?	Written QoN

20	1	Crossin	Alcohol Labelling	<p>In December 2011 the Legislative and Governance Forum on Food Regulation (convening as the Australia and New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council) made a decision "that warnings about the risks of consuming alcohol while pregnant should be pursued [and] industry was given the opportunity to introduce appropriate labeling on a voluntary basis for a period of two years before regulating for this change." There are three areas of concern with the current approach that the Legislative and Governance Forum on Food Regulation (FoFR) are undertaking, these are: 1. An incorrect view that regulatory process cannot occur in conjunction with other Commonwealth Government labelling initiatives that are being on perused; 2. That no labelling standard has been set; 3. That the Commonwealth Government may potentially, under pressure from members of the alcohol industry, regulate labels that are ineffective. The first concern with the approach being taken by FoFR is that appears that members have interpreted this 'voluntary two year period' to mean that no regulatory processes can be commenced before the end of the period on 9 December 2013. This view is incorrect. Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) can be immediately tasked to commence the regulatory process alongside other initiatives that proposed by the Commonwealth Government such as an evaluation of labelling activities and/or consultation with stakeholders. There should be no reason for delay and FoFR at their 14 June 2013 meeting should task FSANZ to commence the regulatory process immediately. Full word document sent separately to Division in email What is stopping the Government from tasking FSANZ which is the primary regulatory body for labelling, at the 14 June forum on Food Regulation meeting? If this does not occur on 14 June when will this take place? Is the proposed evaluation delaying this decision to task FSANZ?</p>	Written QoN
21	1	Crossin	Alcohol Labelling	<p>What process is the Government following to develop the labelling standard for mandatory pregnancy warning labels? When will public health organisations and other stakeholders be consulted and will the standard be agreed before the 9 December 2013 deadline?</p>	Written QoN
22	1	Crossin	Alcohol Labelling	<p>At the end of the two year voluntary period does FoFR intend to mandate the adoption of the DrinkWise consumer information labels that have been found to be ineffective, weak and ambiguous by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs? Or will Government work to develop labels standards that are effective and evidence-based?</p>	Written QoN
23	1	Crossin	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders	<p>In November 2012, The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs released their final report on the Inquiry into the prevention, diagnosis and management of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). This report recognised the importance of immediate action noting that: "Essentially Australia's response to FASD is underfunded and uncoordinated. The purpose of this report is not to add to the volume of inquiries into FASD, but to establish a national plan to eliminate FASD" (page 7). The report also noted that: "It is clear that urgent measures must be taken to reduce the incidence of FASD and to better manage those diagnosed with FASD. This parliamentary inquiry and report are long overdue" (page 3). The Inquiry report made 19 recommendations, of which 11 have set timeframes against them. These include the development of a FASD National Action Plan to be released by 1 June 2013 and the immediate establishment of a FASD Reference Group to oversee the Plan. However, six months since the report was tabled there has been no response by the Commonwealth Government and no money was allocated for FASD initiatives in the recent 2013-14 Commonwealth Budget. Also within this time period it is estimated that 1,300 babies have been born with FASD. This is devastating for those who caring for people with FASD and needs urgent change. Further issues of concern are: a) that the FASD Diagnostic Instrument for Australia has not yet been publicly released. This is despite the final report being submitted to the Department of Health and Ageing in early 2012. b) that no funding has been provided to field test the FASD Diagnostic Instrument for Australia or to disseminate this Instrument to health professionals. Since the House of Representative Inquiry report was handed down, an estimated 1,300 babies have been born with FASD in Australia. This toll is unacceptable. When is the Commonwealth Government going to respond to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs Inquiry into Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders?</p>	Written QoN

24	1	Crossin	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders	<p>In November 2012, The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs released their final report on the Inquiry into the prevention, diagnosis and management of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). This report recognised the importance of immediate action noting that: "Essentially Australia's response to FASD is underfunded and uncoordinated. The purpose of this report is not to add to the volume of inquiries into FASD, but to establish a national plan to eliminate FASD" (page 7). The report also noted that: "It is clear that urgent measures must be taken to reduce the incidence of FASD and to better manage those diagnosed with FASD. This parliamentary inquiry and report are long overdue" (page 3). The Inquiry report made 19 recommendations, of which 11 have set timeframes against them. These include the development of a FASD National Action Plan to be released by 1 June 2013 and the immediate establishment of a FASD Reference Group to oversee the Plan. However, six months since the report was tabled there has been no response by the Commonwealth Government and no money was allocated for FASD initiatives in the recent 2013-14 Commonwealth Budget. Also within this time period it is estimated that 1,300 babies have been born with FASD. This is devastating for those who caring for people with FASD and needs urgent change. Further issues of concern are: a)that the FASD Diagnostic Instrument for Australia has not yet been publicly released. This is despite the final report being submitted to the Department of Health and Ageing in early 2012. b)that no funding has been provided to field test the FASD Diagnostic Instrument for Australia or to disseminate this Instrument to health professionals. When is the Commonwealth Government going to establish the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Reference Group that will oversee the development of a National FASD Action Plan, as recommended by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs Inquiry into FASD?</p>	Written QoN
25	1	Crossin	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders	<p>In November 2012, The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs released their final report on the Inquiry into the prevention, diagnosis and management of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). This report recognised the importance of immediate action noting that: "Essentially Australia's response to FASD is underfunded and uncoordinated. The purpose of this report is not to add to the volume of inquiries into FASD, but to establish a national plan to eliminate FASD" (page 7). The report also noted that: "It is clear that urgent measures must be taken to reduce the incidence of FASD and to better manage those diagnosed with FASD. This parliamentary inquiry and report are long overdue" (page 3). The Inquiry report made 19 recommendations, of which 11 have set timeframes against them. These include the development of a FASD National Action Plan to be released by 1 June 2013 and the immediate establishment of a FASD Reference Group to oversee the Plan. However, six months since the report was tabled there has been no response by the Commonwealth Government and no money was allocated for FASD initiatives in the recent 2013-14 Commonwealth Budget. Also within this time period it is estimated that 1,300 babies have been born with FASD. This is devastating for those who caring for people with FASD and needs urgent change. Further issues of concern are: a)that the FASD Diagnostic Instrument for Australia has not yet been publicly released. This is despite the final report being submitted to the Department of Health and Ageing in early 2012. b)that no funding has been provided to field test the FASD Diagnostic Instrument for Australia or to disseminate this Instrument to health professionals. When will the Commonwealth Government provide funding to undertaken the actions recommended by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs Inquiry into FASD?</p>	Written QoN

26	1	Crossin	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders	<p>In November 2012, The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs released their final report on the Inquiry into the prevention, diagnosis and management of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). This report recognised the importance of immediate action noting that: "Essentially Australia's response to FASD is underfunded and uncoordinated. The purpose of this report is not to add to the volume of inquiries into FASD, but to establish a national plan to eliminate FASD" (page 7). The report also noted that: "It is clear that urgent measures must be taken to reduce the incidence of FASD and to better manage those diagnosed with FASD. This parliamentary inquiry and report are long overdue" (page 3). The Inquiry report made 19 recommendations, of which 11 have set timeframes against them. These include the development of a FASD National Action Plan to be released by 1 June 2013 and the immediate establishment of a FASD Reference Group to oversee the Plan. However, six months since the report was tabled there has been no response by the Commonwealth Government and no money was allocated for FASD initiatives in the recent 2013-14 Commonwealth Budget. Also within this time period it is estimated that 1,300 babies have been born with FASD. This is devastating for those who caring for people with FASD and needs urgent change. Further issues of concern are: a) that the FASD Diagnostic Instrument for Australia has not yet been publicly released. This is despite the final report being submitted to the Department of Health and Ageing in early 2012. b) that no funding has been provided to field test the FASD Diagnostic Instrument for Australia or to disseminate this Instrument to health professionals. When will the FASD Diagnostic Instrument for Australia be made publicly available and what funding will be provided for its field testing and dissemination?</p>	Written QoN
27	1	Crossin	National Alcohol Strategy	<p>Australia's 'National Alcohol Strategy 2006 -2009' was extended until 2011 but has not been extended since then. It is now almost halfway through 2013 and Australia still does not have a National Alcohol Strategy nor has any progress been made towards the strategy being updated. In late May 2013 the final draft of the 'Global Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Action Plan 2013-2020' was agreed by the World Health Assembly Member States of the World Health Organization. Australia is one of these Member States. This plan defines the priorities to prevent NCDs and sets clear targets under the Global Monitoring Framework for countries to reduce the harmful activities that contribute to NCDs. Alcohol is one of the priority target areas for the Global NCD Action Plan. Australia is a signatory to this Plan. Now that the Global NCD Action Plan has been agreed, Australia's own National Alcohol Strategy is critical to the planning of how Australia will reduce alcohol-related harm over the coming years and achieve the targets set out in the Global NCD Action Plan. The new National Alcohol Strategy should also reflect the recommendations within the Global strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol released in 2010 by the World Health Organization. a) The National Alcohol Strategy expired in 2009 and was extended to 2011. It is now midway through 2013 and Australia still does not have a National Alcohol Strategy. Can the Government provide an explanation as to why a new National Alcohol Strategy has not been developed? b) Can the Government please indicate when a revised National Alcohol Strategy will be developed?</p>	Written QoN

28	1	Crossin	National Alcohol Strategy	<p>Australia's 'National Alcohol Strategy 2006 -2009' was extended until 2011 but has not been extended since then. It is now almost halfway through 2013 and Australia still does not have a National Alcohol Strategy nor has any progress been made towards the strategy being updated. In late May 2013 the final draft of the 'Global Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Action Plan 2013-2020' was agreed by the World Health Assembly Member States of the World Health Organization. Australia is one of these Member States. This plan defines the priorities to prevent NCDs and sets clear targets under the Global Monitoring Framework for countries to reduce the harmful activities that contribute to NCDs. Alcohol is one of the priority target areas for the Global NCD Action Plan. Australia is a signatory to this Plan. Now that the Global NCD Action Plan has been agreed, Australia's own National Alcohol Strategy is critical to the planning of how Australia will reduce alcohol-related harm over the coming years and achieve the targets set out in the Global NCD Action Plan. The new National Alcohol Strategy should also reflect the recommendations within the Global strategy to reduce the harmful use of alcohol released in 2010 by the World Health Organization. Now that the World Health Organization has agreed to the Global Non-Communicable Diseases Action Plan 2013-2020, how does the Commonwealth Government intend to achieve the targets that are set to reduce alcohol-related harm without a National Alcohol Strategy?</p>	Written QoN
29	1	Crossin	Minimum (floor) price for alcohol and alcohol advertising	<p>In 2012-13 the Australian National Preventative Health Agency (ANPHA) produced two issues papers on alcohol policy reform these are: " Exploring the public interest case for a minimum (floor) price for alcohol; and " Considering the effectiveness of current regulatory codes around alcohol advertising, marketing and regulation. A two stage process is being followed for each review. For the review of minimum (floor) pricing the first paper was released in June 2012 and the second stage draft report 'Exploring the public interest case for a minimum (floor) price for alcohol' was released in November 2012. This second stage report received 37 submissions. When asked about the release of the final report of this review, during Senate Estimates, 13 February, Ms Louise Sylvan, Chief Executive Officer answered that ANPHA was aiming to release the final report on Minimum Price by the end of March 2013. This report is not yet publicly available. The second reform agenda being reviewed by ANPHA is on alcohol advertising and after consultation with ANPHA's 'Expert Committee on Alcohol,' the approach to this review was broadened from the original set task of monitoring the compliance by the alcohol industry to the existing voluntary codes¹ to investigating the current state of alcohol advertising, marketing and regulation in Australia. Submissions were invited on the draft issues paper the 'Alcohol Advertising: the effectiveness of current regulatory codes in addressing community concerns' by end March 2013. No further drafts or information about the second stage of this process have been made available. It is important that these two areas are progressed, particularly alcohol pricing reform which is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce alcohol-related harms. Has the final report by ANPHA on Minimum price been submitted to the Minister and will the final report on 'Exploring the public interest case for a minimum (floor) price for alcohol' be made publicly available prior to the Federal Election on September 2013?</p>	Written QoN

30	1	Crossin	Minimum (floor) price for alcohol and alcohol advertising	In 2012-13 the Australian National Preventative Health Agency (ANPHA) produced two issues papers on alcohol policy reform these are: " Exploring the public interest case for a minimum (floor) price for alcohol; and " Considering the effectiveness of current regulatory codes around alcohol advertising, marketing and regulation. A two stage process is being followed for each review. For the review of minimum (floor) pricing the first paper was released in June 2012 and the second stage draft report 'Exploring the public interest case for a minimum (floor) price for alcohol' was released in November 2012. This second stage report received 37 submissions. When asked about the release of the final report of this review, during Senate Estimates, 13 February, Ms Louise Sylvan, Chief Executive Officer answered that ANPHA was aiming to release the final report on Minimum Price by the end of March 2013. This report is not yet publicly available. The second reform agenda being reviewed by ANPHA is on alcohol advertising and after consultation with ANPHA's 'Expert Committee on Alcohol,' the approach to this review was broadened from the original set task of monitoring the compliance by the alcohol industry to the existing voluntary codes ¹ to investigating the current state of alcohol advertising, marketing and regulation in Australia. Submissions were invited on the draft issues paper the 'Alcohol Advertising: the effectiveness of current regulatory codes in addressing community concerns' by end March 2013. No further drafts or information about the second stage of this process have been made available. It is important that these two areas are progressed, particularly alcohol pricing reform which is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce alcohol-related harms. When will information be released on the alcohol advertising review being undertaken by ANPHA?	Written QoN
31	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program - Clarification of total funding to be expended in 2012-13	a)What is the total funding for the Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program (MHNIP) in 2012-13? b)What is the total number of sessions allocated in 2012-13, and how many sessions have been used to date? c)What are the percentages of organisations trending below, and above, the expected level in terms of session allocation?	Written QoN
32	11	Wright	Mental health Nurse Incentive Program - Clarification of total funding to be expended in 2012-13	a)How many new organisations have commenced with the program in 2012-13? b)Where are these organisations located? c)How many organisations are on the waiting list for the program? d)What criteria are the Department using to determine which organisations on the waiting list are able to commence the program? e)What criteria are the Department using to decide how many sessions to allocate to new organisations?	Written QoN
33	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program - Session Allocations	a)How many organisations have used their full allocation of sessions? b)If possible, please provide the dates of when each organisation used its last session. c)In the case of each organisation, how many patients were receiving MHNIP services at the time the session allocation was exhausted? d)Has the Department provided further support to these organisations?	Written QoN
34	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program - Session allocations	a)How many organisations have written to the Department of Health and Ageing, or the Department of Human Services, requesting further sessions, following the completion of the initial appeal process in October 2012? b)How many organisations received further sessions as a result of their request? c)Has DOHA set a timeframe for responding to these requests?	Written QoN
35	11	Wright	Mental Health Nurse Incentive Program - Session allocations	When will organisations be informed of their 2013-14 session allocation?	Written QoN
36	11	Wright	MHNIP Expert Reference Group and program re-design	a)What are the terms of reference for the Expert Reference Group? b)Who has been appointed to the Expert Reference Group? c)Will the re-design process include a public consultation period to gather input from mental health nurses, general practitioners, psychiatrists, consumers and carers who use the MHNIP? d)What is the planned timeframe for the MHNIP re-design process?	Written QoN
37	1	Boyce	TB	Are the recent incidents involving MDRTB infections in Cairns and the Torres Strait with the death of a resident of Saibai Island - the confirmed infection of four people with whom the victim had contact one of whom is a baby - and the possible cross infection of another 61 people in North Queensland an indication that the closure of the TB clinics on Saibai and Boigu Islands was misguided?	Written QoN

38	1	Boyce	TB	<p>a)Villagers along the PNG -Torres Strait coast line have apparently reported to the visiting chief medical officer of Queensland that TB cases are on a dramatic rise and that the Australian funded sea ambulance is not regularly visiting the region to distribute TB medications - when the non consistent application of such drugs is the fundamental reason for creation of MDRTB and its proliferation? Your response? b)PNG village elders also complain that they and their communities are being ignored. How can the expensive Australian funded PNG TB program have any chance of success if this is happening? c)How too, can the current policy work when there is clear evidence of corruption and mismanagement in PNG medical facilities and a burgeoning illegal trade in TB medications paid for by the Australian taxpayer?</p> <p>Transferred to AusAid - 26/06/2013</p>	Written QoN
39	1	Boyce	TB	Is not the passage of Warren Entsch's private members Bill on this issue through the HR unopposed - a clear sign that all sides of politics recognise that there is indeed a crisis and that the current policy is not working?	Written QoN
40	1	Boyce	TB	When will the TB Clinics on Boigu and Saibai be re-opened?	Written QoN
41	8	Boyce	Indigenous - Dental	<p>While the most recent Closing the Gap Report (Feb 2013) indicated that in 2011-2012 3,842 dental services were delivered to 2,810 indigenous children and that the overall prevalence for children with at least one oral health problem fell by 12 per cent the Australian Dental association has called on the government to, and I quote, "ensure that comprehensive treatment is made available' and that 'while fluoride varnish and fissure sealants are a good supplement ... they are not a substitute for complete dental care." a)Your response? b)There are pilot programmes involving mobile dental clinics that have been underway for some 12 months now. What is the assessment of those pilots? c)Will these pilots become permanent programmes? If not why not? And if so when?</p>	Written QoN
42	8	Boyce	Indigenous - Dental	<p>While the most recent Closing the Gap Report (Feb 2013) indicated that in 2011-2012 3,842 dental services were delivered to 2,810 indigenous children and that the overall prevalence for children with at least one oral health problem fell by 12 per cent the Australian Dental association has called on the government to, and I quote, "ensure that comprehensive treatment is made available' and that 'while fluoride varnish and fissure sealants are a good supplement ... they are not a substitute for complete dental care." Indigenous Australians have a 90 per cent rate of periodontal disease compared to 20 per cent for the non-indigenous population and a rate of dental disease that is five times that of the rest of us. What is being done to close that enormous gap?</p>	Written QoN
43	8	Boyce	Indigenous - Dental	<p>While the most recent Closing the Gap Report (Feb 2013) indicated that in 2011-2012 3,842 dental services were delivered to 2,810 indigenous children and that the overall prevalence for children with at least one oral health problem fell by 12 per cent the Australian Dental association has called on the government to, and I quote, "ensure that comprehensive treatment is made available' and that 'while fluoride varnish and fissure sealants are a good supplement ... they are not a substitute for complete dental care." a)What can you tell us about the fate of the project known as the \$780,000 - "Dental Drover" - last reported as sitting idle on Thursday Island for the lack of a driver and a dentist? b)The Commonwealth was accused of providing funding for the truck fit out but no on- going money to run it, which would seem a bit pointless. Where does the truth lie there?</p>	Written QoN
44	5	Boyce	Redcliffe Super Clinic	a)Is Redcliffe Super clinic promised in 2007 open for business yet? b)Has the internal fit out been completed? c)Have you found anyone to provide its services? If so who are they? Has an agreement been completed?	Written QoN

45	5	Boyce	Redcliffe Super Clinic	At the last Estimates in February this year in response to a WQON the Department said "This particular clinic is built on Queensland government land and as such, subject to Queensland government approvals. The Department of Health and Ageing is working with Queensland Health and metro North Hospital and Health Service to finalise the arrangements and get services up and running as soon as possible." a)The necessary Qld building approvals were as you know completed eons ago and my advice is there were no hold-ups in that process- so the question still remains why isn't open for business? b)It's been alleged that the delays are all the fault of the Qld government is that correct? c)How is it possible to claim that when this is a Federal government project, largely funded by the Commonwealth and managed by the Commonwealth? d)When will it be open for business, before the next election? Anytime this year?	Written QoN
46	1	Boyce	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	Your institute provides authoritative information and statistics to promote better health and wellbeing. a) Has your authority undertaken any modelling on the impact of your research on Australians' health and wellbeing, ie have you been able to measure whether the information you disseminate, influences and/or changes Australians' behaviours and habits in a positive way which improves people's health? b) If so, have you measured what impact this has had on the federal health budget?	Written QoN
47	2	Boyce	Access to Pharmaceutical Services	What is the timetable for finalising listing arrangements for those drugs that the PBAC has recommended so that Australians can get access to these new treatments?	Written QoN
48	2	Boyce	Access to Pharmaceutical Services	What is the last possible date the Government can announce a PBS listing prior to the election?	Written QoN
49	2	Boyce	Access to Pharmaceutical Services	What is the average length of time it takes new high cost cancer treatments to get on to the PBS?	Written QoN
50	2	Boyce	Access to Pharmaceutical Services	Has the time it takes to list a drug increased over the past 2 years?	Written QoN
51	2	Boyce	Access to Pharmaceutical Services	Bristol-Myers Squibb, the manufacturer of Yervoy, was given a recommendation by the PBAC last November, 6 months ago. Given people with metastatic melanoma have on average about 6 months to live, could you tell me why the Government is taking so long to list Yervoy on the PBS?	Written QoN
52	2	Boyce	Access to Pharmaceutical Services	a) Could you confirm whether in the past, once drugs were approved they were almost immediately listed on the PBS? b) Why is that no longer the case?	Written QoN
53	1	Boyce	Research into dementia	When will we see the Government's response to the McKeon Strategic Review of Health and Medical Research and its recommendations for increased funding for research, including in national health priority areas such as dementia?	Written QoN
54	10	Boyce	National Health Priority Areas	As you know, the nine National Health Priority Areas (NHPAs) are diseases and conditions that the Australian government has chosen for focused attention because they contribute significantly to the burden of illness and injury in the Australian community. The government spends approximately \$21 million through the NHMRC on dementia research - one of the nine NHPA? a) Would you please advise how much is spent per annum on research on the other areas - cancer control, cardiovascular health, injury prevention and control, mental health, diabetes, asthma, arthritis and musculoskeletal conditions and obesity? b) Would you please advise the annual cost (in monetary terms) of each of the NHPAs on the Australian community - for example, how much does the treatment of asthma cost the Australian community per year? c) Would you please provide a breakdown of the number of people who suffer from diseases or conditions that are a NHPA?	Written QoN
55	12	Boyce	Workforce and Quality	a) When will the Report on the Government funded ANF Staffing Levels and Skills Mix Project be released? b) When did the ANF make the report available to the government - (expected to be provided a year ago)? c) Why has there been a delay in releasing the report? d) Who is responsible for releasing the report?	Written QoN

56	13	Boyce	National Health Funding Body - Palliative Care	In 2010, \$327M in funding was allocated to Queensland via the National Partnership Agreement to be used for sub-acute services, including rehabilitation, geriatric evaluation management, psycho-geriatrics and palliative care. Of this amount, \$30.52M was allocated by the Queensland Government for palliative care. a) How much of this allocated \$30.52M has actually been used as planned for palliative care services in Queensland? b) Which services and projects have been funded with this money?	Written QoN
57	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Staffing	a) How many ongoing staff recruited this financial year to date? What classification are these staff? b) How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date? What classification are these staff? c) This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?	Written QoN
58	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Staffing	a) How many ongoing staff left the department/agency this financial year to date? What classification were these staff? b) How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency this financial year to date? What classification were these staff? c) How many contract staff left department/agency in the year this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?	Written QoN
59	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Staffing	a) How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred this financial year to date? What was the reason for these reductions? b) Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details. c) Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut. d) If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening. e) Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.	Written QoN
60	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Public Service efficiencies	a) Please provide details of the amended operational efficiencies your agency will make as per 2013-14 Budget Measure 'Public Service efficiencies' (see 2013-14 Budget Paper No 2 p108). In addition, please provide the following detail: b) Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for savings achieved by implementing more efficient management structures, through a reduction in expenditure on staff across the Executive Level (EL) 1 and 2, and Senior Executive Service (SES) levels? c) Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for savings achieved by revising down the occupational density target for all new leases, buildings and major fit-outs undertaken by agencies from 16 square metres per occupied workpoint down to 14 square metres?	Written QoN
61	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Public Service efficiencies	a) Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates? b) Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates? c) Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates? d) Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much? Has the five per cent savings target been achieved - if yes, how, or if it will not, why not? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?	Written QoN
62	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Printing costs	How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed this financial year to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?	Written QoN
63	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Graduate Recruitment	a) Provide an update on expenditure for 2014 Graduate Recruitment to date? Please itemise and detail costs. b) Has any travel been incurred for 2014 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.	Written QoN

64	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Advertising	<p>a) What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date? b) Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services. c) Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item. d) Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item. e) Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Provide the details for each advertising item. f) Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services. g) What advertising - Campaign and Non-Campaign - and other communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?</p>	Written QoN
65	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Hospitality and Entertainment	<p>a) What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. b) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. c) What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. d) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. e) What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. f) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. g) What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. h) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. i) Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates?</p>	Written QoN
66	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Meeting Costs	<p>a) What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs. b) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs. c) What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. d) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.</p>	Written QoN
67	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Program Launch Costs	<p>a) What is the Department/Agency's program launch spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs. b) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total program launch spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs. c) What program launch spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. d) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what program launch spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs.</p>	Written QoN

68	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Board Appointments	Provide an update of the boards within this portfolio, including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members. a) What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio? b) Please detail any board appointments for this financial year to date.	Written QoN
69	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Freedom of Information	a) Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests? b) What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date? c) How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why?	Written QoN
70	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Community Cabinet Meetings	a) Provide an update of how many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended this financial year to date? List date and location. b) How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location. c) What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date?	Written QoN
71	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Reviews	For this financial year to date: a) How many Reviews are being undertaken? b) What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded? c) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? d) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? e) Has the Government responded to all reviews within the timeframe? If not, why not? f) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? g) What reviews are planned? h) When will each of these reviews be concluded?	Written QoN
72	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Consultancies	a) How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies. b) How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.	Written QoN
73	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Media Monitoring	a) What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for this financial year to date? i. Which agency or agencies provided these services? ii. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13? iii. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date? b) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date? i. Which agency or agencies provided these services? ii. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13? iii. What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?	Written QoN
74	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Social Media	a) Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and useage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since May 2012 Budget Estimates? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue. b) Does the department/agency monitor usage of social media? * If yes, provide details of the useage (for example details could include average hours per employee, hours when useage peaks). * Has there been a change to the department/agency protocols due to staff useage? * If no, why not? Will the department/agency monitor useage in the future? c) Does social media impact on employee productivity? Provide details (details could include increased internet usage in general or increased internet usage in standard business hours)	Written QoN

75	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Internet	Has the Department experienced any internet problems, such as but not limited to slow internet, or internet blackouts? If yes, what was the reason for this? Did it impact the Minister's office?	Written QoN
76	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Staff Amenities	What amenities are provided to staff? Provide a list, including any costs and the reason for providing the amenity.	Written QoN
77	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Coffee Machines	a) Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff useage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased. b) Why were coffee machines purchased? c) Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result? d) Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from? e) Who has access? f) Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in this financial year to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from? g) What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee? h) Does the department/agency rent coffee machines for staff useage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased. i) Why are coffee machines rented? j) Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were rented? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result? k) Where does the funding for the coffee machines come from? l) Who has access? m) Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in this financial year to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from? n) What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?	Written QoN
78	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Contractors	For this financial year to date: a) Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). b) Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). c) Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). d) Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). e) Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). f) Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). g) Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). h) Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost). i) Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details. j) What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).	Written QoN
79	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Grants	a) Could the department/agency provide an update list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. b) Have all grant agreement details been published on its website within the required timeframe? If not, provide details.	Written QoN

80	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Commissioned Reports	a) How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your department/agency this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. b) How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? c) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?	Written QoN
81	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Government Payments of Accounts	a) For this financial year to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)? b) If not, why not? Provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached) c) For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year? d) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?	Written QoN
82	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Stationery requirements	a) How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) this financial year to date? b) What are the department/agency's stationery costs for the financial year to date?	Written QoN
83	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Media Subscriptions	a) What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have? * Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel. * What is the cost for this financial year to date? b) What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have? * Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each. * What is the cost for this financial year to date? c) What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have? * Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each. * What is the cost for this financial year to date?	Written QoN
84	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Travel Costs	a) For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). b) For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel. c) What travel is planned for the rest of this financial year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel. d) What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel. e) What is the policy for business class airfare tickets? Is there still a reduction in business flights as per the media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State dated 25 September 2012? f) Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships.g) When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel. h) Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees work related travel? If yes, what is the cost?	Written QoN
85	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Legal costs	a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs. b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs. c) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs. d) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.	Written QoN

86	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Education expenses	a) What is the department/agency's guidelines on study? b) For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency.	Written QoN
87	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Executive Coaching and Leadership Training	In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date: 1. Total spending on these services 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) 4. The names of all service providers engaged. For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide: a) The name and nature of the service purchased. b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based. c) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification 5. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) d) The total amount spent on the service. e) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: i. The location used. 6. The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) 7. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) ii. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location	Written QoN
88	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Media Training	In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date: 1. Total spending on these services 2. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification 3. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) 4. The names of all service providers engaged. For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide: a) The name and nature of the service purchased. b) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based. 5. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) 6. The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) c) The total amount spent on the service. d) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package) Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide: i. The location used. ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion. iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) iv. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location.	Written QoN
89	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Paid Parental Leave	a) Please list how many staff in each department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? b) For this financial year to date list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments. c) What is the paid parental scheme offered by each department and agency? How many staff have used the scheme this financial year to date.	Written QoN

90	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries	a) For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for. b) For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for staff of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for. c) For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for designed to better suit the needs of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for, and how many employees attended and their classification.	Written QoN
91	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Corporate Cars	a) How many cars are owned by each department/agency? b) Where is the car/s located? c) What is the car/s used for? d) What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date? e) How far did each car travel this financial year to date?	Written QoN
92	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Taxi Costs	a) How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency. b) What are the reasons for taxi costs?	Written QoN
93	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Hire Cars	a) How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency. b) What are the reasons for hire car costs?	Written QoN
94	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Credit Cards	Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card. Please update details of the following? * What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused? * How is corporate credit card use monitored? * What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered? * Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken. * What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?	Written QoN
95	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Provision of Equipment	a) For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided and the costs? b) For departments/agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what are the ongoing costs for this financial year to date? c) Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff? If yes provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it. d) Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to who it is provided.	Written QoN
96	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Electricity Purchasing	a) What are the details of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement? b) What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date?	Written QoN
97	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independents	a) Have any briefings and/or provision of information s been provided to the Australian Greens? If yes, please include: * How are briefings requests commissioned? * What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing. * Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information. * Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed. * How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification. b) Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to Independents? If yes, please include: * How are briefings requests commissioned? * What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing.* Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information. * Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed. * How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification. * Which Independents have requested briefings and/or information?	Written QoN

98	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Shredders	Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders this financial year? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used.	Written QoN
99	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Protective Security Policy Framework	Provide an update for your department/agency, including what is your current compliance level, what are you doing to manage risk, what is being done to comply with the mandatory requirements and details of any department/agency specific policies and procedures.	Written QoN
100	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Office Locations	1) Please provide a list of all office locations for all departments and agencies within the portfolio by: a. Department/Agency; b. Location; c. Leased or Owned; d. Size; e. Number of Staff at each location and classification; f. If rented, the amount and breakdown of rent per square metre; g. If owned, the value of the building; h. Depreciation of buildings that are owned; i. Type of functions and work undertaken.	Written QoN
101	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Communications Staff	1) For all departments and agencies, please provide - in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff - the following: a. By Department or agency: i. How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location. ii. How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location iii. How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location iv. How many are graphic designers? v. How many are media managers? vi. How many organise events? 2) Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios? If yes, why? When was it established? What is the set up cost? What is the ongoing cost? How many staff work there and what are their classifications?	Written QoN
102	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Alternative Policy Costings	Has the Department undertaken any alternative policy costings or advice? If yes, provide details of what these costings or advice were, including provision of costings or advice documents and assumptions used, and who made the request and when.	Written QoN
103	Whole of Portfolio	Smith	Pre-election appointments	Provide a list of any appointments made in your portfolio that will commence after the announced election date of 14 September 2013. Provide details of the appointment including position and length.	Written QoN
104	1	Rhiannon	Experiments on Primates	a)How much money has been granted in the last five years for primate based medical and scientific research? b)How much government funding is provided for each of the three breeding colonies - the baboon colony in Sydney, and the marmoset and macaque colonies in Churchill Victoria? c)What government departments including military establishments and other government bodies, including CSIRO, Department of Defence use primates and for what purposes? d)How many have these organisations have reported to the NHMRC on the number of animals they use? e)Why are these organisations exempt from reporting their statistics publicly? f)Given there is an international shift away from the use of non-human primates in scientific research purely on ethical grounds, what consideration has the Australian government given to driving this change among Australian research bodies? g)What happens to primates that have been used for medical and scientific research when they are no longer required for such research? h)Has the government given consideration to providing a refuge or retirement facility for primates that have been used in research? If not, why not? i)Does the government accept that it has a duty of care to primate animals that have been used for medical and scientific research when they are no longer required for such research? j)What life-saving medical breakthroughs have been achieved by subjecting primates to experimentation over the last 10 years? Is there any centralised database collating this information? k)If there isn't, how can an Ethics Committee or the NHMRC know that proposed primate experimentation has not already been duplicated elsewhere? i) Is this an ethical approach? ii)Where is the data that allows informed debate, validation or value of such experiments? l)Have there been any discussions about setting up a centralised database? i)Would NHMRC support setting up one? If not why not? j)Before approving experimentation on primates what consideration is given to the impact the experiments will have on the animals? i)What are the limits in terms of physical or mental harm or stress allowed to be perpetrated on primates in experiments? k)Is the publishing of peer-reviewed outcomes a requirement of research in Australia using primates? If not, why not?	Written QoN

105	1	Rhiannon	Health costs of Woodsmoke	<p>a)Did the federal government's Consultation RIS on woodheater pollution RIS process request any federal health agency input about health care costs from wood smoke emissions to inform a national policy or regulatory framework around reducing emissions from wood heaters? b)Is there any such data or recorded concerns available via the Department's data collection sources? c)What recommendations would the Department of Health urge on this issue? d)What are the estimated national health costs caused by woodsmoke, from health professionals' point of view? e)What information and advice about this issue is being sought from health professionals by the Department, notwithstanding the current Senate Inquiry into Air Quality? f) What actions would federal health agencies want to see to reduce the physical and economic health costs of woodsmoke?</p> <p>Transferred to SEWPAC - 07/06/2013</p>	Written QoN
106	2	Scullion	Petrol Sniffing	<p>a)Since the Low Aromatic Fuel Bill (2012) was implemented, how many areas have been declared as low aromatic fuel areas by the Minister? b)Have there been of any negotiations or discussions about using the new powers of the Low Aromatic Fuel act?</p>	Written QoN
107	3	Rhiannon	Abortion data	<p>The Australian Institute of Health & Welfare's (AIHW) 2005 publication: Use of routinely collected national data sets for reporting on induced abortion in Australia outlines a methodology for estimating the number of induced abortions in Australia using the Medicare data and the National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD) data. Both data sets were used because neither has complete ascertainment of induced abortion. During Estimates hearings the AIHW advised the following questions should be asked of Medicare: a)Is there a publication listed the number of induced abortions in Australia using the Medicare data and the National Hospital Morbidity Database (NHMD) data? b)May I have a breakdown of both data-sets by state, and/or region? i) If not, please provide details with how to access this data. c)May I also have any data-sets that correlate Socio-Economic Status of regions with abortion data? Refer to Hansard QoN E13-195</p>	Written QoN
108	10	Boyce	Memorandum of Understanding	<p>In answers to estimates questions from October 2012 NEHTA has stated that, "an E-Health Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was agreed by the Standing Council on Health at its meeting of November 9, 2012". In fact, as NEHTA only acknowledged later. The MOU was not signed and not even agreed rather, a communique released after that meeting stated that the Ministers had only "noted progress on the eHealth MOU." A recent FOI application seeking a copy of this MOU was rejected as of May 14, 2013 this on the stated grounds that the MOU had yet to be signed by all parties; "As the MOU is not yet signed by all parties and is considered not to commence until this has happened, the release of the document may pre-empt jurisdictional agreement and may cause damage to relations between the Commonwealth and State (including a Territory)". It's now June where is the MOU at the moment, who has and who hasn't signed it?</p>	Written QoN
109	10	Boyce	Memorandum of Understanding	<p>The previous National Partnership Agreement on E-Health, constituting joint commonwealth-state funding arrangements for the National E-Health Transition Authority's work program, expired at the end of June 2012. As well, a renegotiated e-health funding agreement was identified as a key priority for the Health Minister when Ms Plibersek took that role. a)Given all that why this inordinate delay, what [it's] is the fundamental problem? b)Does this mean that there is currently NO funding agreement between the parties for this purpose? c)If so, on what basis is NEHTA's ongoing program being funded, and by whom? d)Can NEHTA legally operate in the absence of a binding agreement between the parties?</p>	Written QoN
110	10	Boyce	Memorandum of Understanding	<p>As to the real identity of NEHTA could you please explain the following listing on the 'ausgovboards' website[http://www.ausgovboards.gov.au/boards/national-e-health-transition-authority] that lists the National E-Health Transition Authority is now being part of the Health and Ageing portfolio, and that it now functions in an advisory capacity?</p>	Written QoN
111	10	Boyce	Sign Ups	<p>a)What inducements are being offered to encourage PCEHR sign-ups? b)Does that include the orange and white uniforms of the roaming sign-up squad from ASPEN? c)How much is the cost of the Aspen contract? d)How much would be the outlay per PCEHR signature?</p>	Written QoN

112	10	Boyce	Sign Ups	a)Signing up for a PCEHR is supposed to be a serious matter of informed and considered consent. How does walking in on patients who are ill or in recovery and offering them free coffee mugs or tickets to the Zoo as an promotional giveaway inducement to sign-up in anyway commensurate with that? b)What's the moral and professional efficacy of this marketing approach? c)On what strategic basis was it decided to invest money in promoting individual PCEHR sign-ups instead of focusing those resources on marketing/promoting/advertising the PCEHR as a whole?	Written QoN
113	10	Boyce	Outages	a)In responses to previous questions about the PCEHR and outages, NEHTA has always insisted that it manages to keep the PCEHR up 98.9% of the time and that this is perfectly acceptable - an industry standard. Can you provide evidence of where in any modern western medical system that this is regarded as acceptable - a system that is out of action at least 4 days a year? b)In fact shortly after we received NEHTA's response to our last WQON in regard to outages - I- NEHTA announced that a planned systems outage of 25 hours duration would occur that weekend. You can't really be suggesting that in crucial health matters having the PCEHR out of service for 25 consecutive hours is any way acceptable?	Written QoN
114	3	Boyce	Medicare	Does Medicare churn rather than treat and act as an income stream for providers rather than patient based outcomes?	Written QoN
115	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Suicide Prevention	Can the Department explain why the announcement regarding the funding of National Suicide Prevention Programs such as the \$6 million Taking Action to Tackle Suicide (TATS) package promised to providers in February 2013 has not yet been made?	Written QoN
116	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Australasian Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health (ACRRMH) - Deadly Thinking program	Is the Department aware of the very significant difficulties this delayed announcement means to the Not for Profit/NGO sector whose business it is to roll out creative and effective suicide prevention programs in rural and remote Australia, particularly in Indigenous communities?	Written QoN
117	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Early Intervention	Is the Department aware of the research done recently in the UK, which clearly shows that every dollar spent in mental health prevention can save up to \$9 in the first year and rises to \$48 over the next 2-5 years?	Written QoN
118	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Early Intervention	To what extent does the Department accept that awareness and early interventions can save lives, families, money and reduce the ever-growing demand on clinical services?	Written QoN
119	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Early Intervention	To what extent does the Department accept that awareness and early interventions in rural and remote Australia can save lives, families, money and reduce the ever-growing demand on scarce clinical services?	Written QoN
120	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Growing Up Smiling (GUS) Scheme	What was the process for determining the rebates to apply under the Dental Benefits Schedule for the Growing Up Smiling scheme? That is, what stakeholders were consulted, how and when? What factors were considered and how was the final rebate for each item number determined? Who made the decision on the final rebate to apply - was it a recommendation of the Department of Health, Department of Finance, Department of Human Services?	Written QoN
121	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Growing Up Smiling (GUS) Scheme	How do the rebates proposed compare to average dental fees charged at present for similar services by private dentists?	Written QoN
122	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Growing Up Smiling (GUS) Scheme	Given the Scheme is restricted to children on Youth Allowance, Abstudy, Family Tax Benefit, is there any requirement for practitioners to bulk bill or limit their fees in any way?	Written QoN
123	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Growing Up Smiling (GUS) Scheme	What do you expect the average claim to be over two year under the Scheme and what do you expect to be the average out of pocket costs per patient over two years?	Written QoN
124	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Growing Up Smiling (GUS) Scheme	The Schedule provides a number of restrictions on the use of item numbers & including some that can only be used once every two years. How will dentists and patients be informed of these requirements and when will that occur? What happens if a patient attends different dentists and a restricted service is performed on multiple occasions & if the patient isn't bulk-billed, who is liable, the dentist, the patient or Medicare?	Written QoN
125	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Growing Up Smiling (GUS) Scheme	How much is to be spent on a communications campaign on this and when will it occur?	Written QoN

126	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Financial - BRE	Can you provide a detailed description of the specific activities and related outcomes in relation to each of the Outcome 11 - BRE's referred to in the document tabled on 06/06/2013	Written QoN
127	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Financial - BRE	Can you provide a detailed description of the specific activities and related outcomes in relation to each of the Outcome 4 - BRE's referred to in the document tabled on 06/06/2013.	Written QoN
128	1	Di Natale	Opiate overdose deaths from legal prescribed drugs	My understanding is that when it comes to opiates there are more opiate deaths from legal prescribed drugs than there are from illegal opiates. Do you have that information at hand?	CA 54 - 06/06/2013
129	2	Boyce	Access to Myozyme	<p>a) Is it true that the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) has rejected Myozyme® a total of seven times for Late Onset Pompe Disease in adults?</p> <p>b) Is it true that the Life Saving Drug Program (LSDP) criteria were altered so that Criterion Four (4) was worded to include the word substantial?</p> <p>c) When was the criteria changed?</p> <p>d) How many drugs have been approved since the change in the criteria?</p> <p>e) What is the definition of "substantial"?</p> <p>f) How can "substantial" be measured when it can mean different things for different diseases?</p> <p>g) Is it not a nebulous term which introduces an unacceptable amount of uncertainty into the guidelines and undermines the whole program?</p> <p>h) Is criterion 4 in its changed form an unrealistic, impossible and uncompassionate provision given that in these ultra-rare diseases, clinical data simply cannot be provided at the level available for common diseases and no-one seems to be clear on what a "substantial" life extension actually means?</p> <p>i) If the manufacturer of the drug - Genzyme - had made application under the old LSDP guidelines, would the drug have been approved?</p>	Written QoN
130	2	Boyce	PBAC Decision Making	<p>The grounds the PBAC gave for declining Myozyme in March 2013 was that it did not meet criterion 4 of the LSDP, in that although Myozyme may have some effect on mortality and quality of life, the available data do not provide certainty to the PBAC that the drug substantially and directly extends the lifespan of patients with late-onset Pompe disease.</p> <p>a) In Australia, there are 29 patients diagnosed with late onset Pompe disease. Will a population group this size ever be large enough to provide that certainty?</p> <p>b) Is the PBAC requiring evidence that simply cannot be provided in Australia?</p> <p>c) If it requires evidence that cannot be produced, is that not defeating the whole purpose of the LSDP whose ambit is to assist small populations of people with rare diseases?</p> <p>Prof Jack Goldblatt, a leading Australian geneticist and metabolic physician, recently concluded that the interpretation of the LSDP criterion in the PBAC's decision on treatment for Pompe disease suggests this criterion will likely mitigate against new drugs for these rare disorders being funded through the LSDP in the future. He went on to say that this vulnerable group of individuals will thus potentially be denied therapy for conditions which will progress to premature death if untreated.</p> <p>d) That is the view of an expert. Is the PBAC not breaching its own guidelines by denying Pompe disease sufferers' treatment which, according to research, improves and extends their lives?</p>	Written QoN

131	2	Boyce	Use of Evidence	<p>The Erasmus University in the Netherlands has recently published an international study demonstrating the benefits of Myozyme.</p> <p>a) Given the small population group of Pompe disease sufferers in Australia, does the PBAC take into consideration overseas research when it comes to rare diseases? If not why not?</p> <p>b) Have companies who have had made application under the LSDP, been told by the Chair of the PBAC to apply to the PBS at a much lower price?</p> <p>c) Does that not suggest that the PBAC recognises that Myozyme benefits Pompe disease sufferers?</p> <p>d) Has the Department had discussions with the PBAC about the fact that "late-onset" Pompe disease includes children between the ages of 2 and 18?</p> <p>e) Has any consideration been given to making an exception for these children?</p> <p>f) Are you aware that those with no access to treatment include an 11 year old boy whose condition is worsening due to the fact that the application for treatment has been rejected by the PBAC?</p> <p>g) Have discussions been held between the Department and the PBAC in respect of the exclusion of late onset patients on the grounds of cost?</p> <p>h) If so, when?</p> <p>i) Are you aware that the price for this medication is based on the cost of a standard vial price and that dosage for patients and therefore cost is weight related?</p>	Written QoN
132	1	Nash	National Food Plan	<p>Through the National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health (NPAPH) we are investing a record \$932 million over nine years (2009-18) to implement initiatives that promote healthy behaviours and tackle the rising prevalence of lifestyle-related diseases, including obesity. Through this initiative, we aim to lay the foundation for healthy eating behaviours within communities, schools and workplaces, and increase the proportion of children and adults meeting nutritional guidelines. National Food Plan page 63.</p> <p>a) Can the department provide a break down over forward estimates how much funding will be allocated to rural and regional areas?</p> <p>b) What campaigns will be targeted to rural and regional areas in the future?</p> <p>c) The National Partnership Agreement was a 2008 announcement how many campaigns have been tailored to rural and regional health?</p> <p>d) How much money has been spent on campaigns that are tailored to rural and regional health?</p>	Written QoN
133	1	Ludlam	Plans for Uranium Mining in Queensland	Can you tell me again about this letter? What did the letter invoke or request?	CA 79 - 06/06/2013
134	1	Siewert	Double stranded RNA	<p>In relation to applications considered by the OGTR involving double stranded RNA, can you please advise:</p> <p>a) The total number of such applications assessed by the OGTR;</p> <p>b) What particular crops have been involved; and</p> <p>c) In what year the first approval was given.</p>	CA 66 - 06/06/2013
135	1	Siewert	Field trials of genetically modified wheat	Can you please provide a list of all field trials of genetically modified wheat approved by the Gene Technology Regulator.	CA 67 - 06/06/2013
136	4	Fierravanti-Wells	ACFI Fraud	What is the potential value of those claims if fraud were to be proved? Are we talking millions, hundreds of thousands or tens of thousands?	CA 79 - 05/06/2013
137	4	Fierravanti-Wells	ACFI Validation	<p>a) How many validators do you have all-up in the department?</p> <p>b) Do you have any more in training?</p>	CA 80 - 05/06/2013
138	14	Fierravanti-Wells	National Medical Stockpile	Number of dosages for each product?	CA 94 - 06/06/2013

139	1	Siewert	Number of dosages for each product?	In relation to approval of two applications involving the technique of using double-stranded RNAs to genetically modify a food: a) What were these applications for? b) When were these applications approved? c) Please confirm that all of these applications related to food for human consumption as opposed to animal feed.	CA 62 - 06/06/2013
140	1	Xenophon	Carbendazim	In relation to Food Standards Australia New Zealand's consideration of carbendazim MRLs following the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority's review of carbendazim : a) When was this proposal undertaken? b) Please provide some more details in respect to the proposal	CA 64 - 06/06/2013
141	1	Xenophon	Memorandum of Understanding with APVMA	Please provide a copy of Food Standards Australia New Zealand's Memorandum of Understanding with the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.	CA 65 - 06/06/2013
142	3	Boyce	Medicare Overhaul	Does the 40 year old Medicare need a radical overhaul?	Written QoN
143	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Workforce Australia	Can you provide a breakdown of the \$13 million "Supplier Expenses" referenced on page 435 of the Budget papers?	CA 126 - 05/06/2013
144	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Workforce Australia	Can you provide a breakdown of funding apportioned to each health profession under the Clinical Training Funding program?	CA 126 - 05/06/2013
145	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Workforce Australia	How much money is spent on research?	CA 127 - 05/06/2013
146	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Workforce Australia	What is the cost of producing each of the research reports listed on the HWA website?	CA 127 - 05/06/2013
147	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Workforce Australia	Can you provide a breakdown of "other" expenditure referenced on page 435 of the Budget Papers?	CA 127 - 05/06/2013
148	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Workforce Australia	In relation to the grant awarded to the Bethanie Group through the Aged Care Workforce Reform program, what is the value, nature and duration of the grant, and what is the mechanism for reviewing the success or otherwise of that money?	CA 129 - 05/06/2013
149	11	Fierravanti-Wells	EPPIC	[Offers to States under Round One.] When was the original letter from the Minister sent to the States indicating they were successful under round 1.	CA 45 - 05/06/2013
150	11	Fierravanti-Wells	EPPIC	[Funding agreements with Orygen] - a) Is there any intention to pay Orygen that full amount? We are talking 30 June. Have you worked that one out yet. Are you going to pay that money? b) What is left to deliver by Orygen pursuant to that funding agreement?	CA 46 - 05/06/2013
151	11	Fierravanti-Wells	EPPIC	[Offers to States under Round One.] Did you send a letter of offer to the New South Wales government, when was the letter sent.	CA 47 - 05/06/2013
152	11	Fierravanti-Wells	EPPIC	[Offers to States under Round One.] You have letters that have gone out to relevant states in about January, early this year. Can you tell me what has happened between January and May?	CA 51 - 05/06/2013
153	11	Fierravanti-Wells	EPPIC	[Sites proposed by headspace to the Minister.] a) When were they proposed? b) Was it a written proposal or an oral proposal? Was it initiated by headspace or the department or the minister?	CA 51 - 05/06/2013
154	11	Fierravanti-Wells	EPPIC	Will young people be required to make a co-payment towards their care at these new centres?	CA 53 - 05/06/2013

155	11	Wright	Partners in Recovery	What has the \$3.8 million spent to-date (as at 20 may 2013) been spent on?	CA 54 - 05/06/2013
156	11	Wright	Partners in Recovery	a) Which organisations have been selected so far? b) Could you give us an indication of when the other regions would be announced?	CA 55 - 05/06/2013
157	11	Wright	Partners in Recovery	Was it clear in the funding documentation that indicative funding ranges were for when organisations were operating at their maximum capacity? How many organisations received the level of funding they requested?	CA 58 - 05/06/2013
158	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Partners in Recovery	I would be very interested to see a breakdown of the proportion of monies that will go to Medicare Locals. If you could take that on notice I would be very grateful to have a full and comprehensive breakdown of those 49 where the lead agency is a Medicare Local. I would assume that the parameters of their funding agreements will indicate the amount of money that is going to that consortium. Is that the case? [Of the 49 Stage 1 Partners in Recovery organisations, can you provide a breakdown of] - a) the total value of each funding agreement b) for which agreements is the Medicare Local the lead agency c) who the consortium members are	CA 60 - 05/06/2013
159	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Partners in Recovery	a) There is a set of organisations, the majority of which have Medicare Locals as the lead partner. Are you able to ascertain the value of each of those agreements? b) Can you provide to me the value of each of those agreements? c) Can you provide to me which one of those Medicare Locals is the lead agency? d) Can you also provide to me who the other partners are in each of those agreements?	CA 60 - 05/06/2013
160	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Partners in Recovery	How many of the 13 regions where the Medicare Local is not the lead agency do not have the Medicare Local as a consortium partner?	CA 60 - 05/06/2013
161	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Partners in Recovery	Page 10 of the Program Guidelines refer to an estimate of 60,000 people living with severe and persistent mental illness. Where did this estimate come from? Is this in a published paper and has it been peer reviewed?	CA 62 - 05/06/2013
162	11	Furner	MindSpot	This is probably something on notice, but do you have any demographics around those that have been referred? [Of the people assessed by MindSpot since it started operation, 42 per cent had never previously sought help for mental health concerns]	CA 63 - 05/06/2013
163	11	Fierravanti-Wells	Substance Misuse Service Delivery Grants Flexible Fund	[2011 funding rounds for SMSDG listed on the web] This has the names of them but it does not have the amounts. I would assume that you could take on notice the actual amounts allocated to each of those groups.	CA 50 - 06/06/2013
164	8	Fierravanti-Wells	Social and Emotional Wellbeing program	Request for break down of what is in 8.1 precisely and also those figures over the forward estimates.	CA 27 - 07/06/2013
165	8	Fierravanti-Wells	Stronger Futures - MOS Plus	Department to provide confirmation of the BRE for funding for the Mobile Outreach Service Plus program and a breakdown of that funding.	CA 29 - 07/06/2013
166	11	Siewert	Funding for Indigenous suicide programs in the Kimberleys	a) Who hosts that Derby position at the moment? b) Maybe you can take on notice the organisations that do receive the funding for those positions (StandBy program) at the moment	CA 32 - 07/06/2013
167	3	Fierravanti-Wells	Extended Medicare Safety Net (EMSN)	What is the projected expenditure on the extended Medicare safety net over the forward estimates?	CA 111 - 05/06/2013
168	3	Fierravanti-Wells	Extended Medicare Safety Net (EMSN)	How many people currently qualify and receive Medicare funding under the extended Medicare safety net? How many people will be affected by this measure - that is, how many fewer people do you expect to qualify for the extended Medicare safety net than otherwise would have?	CA 111 - 05/06/2013

169	3	Fierravanti-Wells	Chronic Disease management services	a) In a given year, how many occasions of billing a standard consultation and GP management plan are there for the same patient on the same day? b) While you do, is that data on where this occurs by rural classification? In other words, is it more prevalent in rural and remote areas than in metropolitan areas?	CA 112 - 05/06/2013
170	3	Fierravanti-Wells	Chronic Disease management services	How many fewer standard consultations or how many fewer GP management plans do you assume will not be provided to give the government this saving.	CA 112 - 05/06/2013
171	9	Di Natale	Private Health Insurance	Can you tell me about the cost of the rebate to general or ancillary insurance but not including hospital insurance? Is that information you can provide me	CA 99 - 06/06/2013
172	7	Siewert	Neonatal hearing screening	Regarding recommendation 8 of the Inquiry, the Community Care and Population Health Principal Committee (a subcommittee of the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council) was to finalise the draft national framework for neonatal hearing screening for endorsement in early 2013. a) How come this has slipped from early 2013? b) When is it now likely to occur?	CA 122 - 06/06/2013
173	7	Siewert	COAG commitment to health and wellbeing checks at school entry age	Recommendation 8 of the Inquiry regarding the COAG neonatal hearing screening commitment to school entry age: a) Can you advise in what locations the health and wellbeing checks are being trialled? b) Can you confirm that screening for hearing loss is being done as part of these trials?	CA 123 - 06/06/2013
174	7	Siewert	Data set and register for neonatal hearing screening	Can you provide an update on recommendation 14 of the Senate Inquiry regarding timing for the development of the data set and register for neonatal hearing screening.	CA 123 - 06/06/2013
175	7	Siewert	Cochlear processor upgrades	a) Is it possible to provide information to the Committee on work being undertaken by the Hearing Services Consultative Committee on expansion of the program to provide cochlear speech processor upgrades to implant recipients 26 years of age and over? b) How many people in Australia now have Cochlear implants	CA 125 - 06/06/2013
176	13	Smith	Bone Marrow Transplant Program	a) How would you record the incidence of people accessing organs through that mechanism? b) Provide information about the incidence of those requests annually?	CA 30 - 05/06/2013
177	13	Abetz	Living Organ Donors	I am just wondering, with whom, if anyone, did the Department liaise prior to this announcement?	CA 25 - 05/06/2013
178	1	Xenophon	Insurance on medical devices	Lead in discussion was around: - the need for insurance to be held by medical device sponsors to provide coverage to patients should the sponsor no longer exist in the future (eg liquidation); - whether there would be a review of regulatory frameworks in light of what occurred in the PIP breast implants situation. If it is a question of regulation of the device rather than the entities, would you not require appropriate insurance on that particular device?	CA 59 - 06/06/2013
179	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Climate change research	What is the funding for climate change next year?	CA 31 - 06/06/2013
180	1	Fierravanti-Wells	Dementia research	Could I just ask if you could again give me figures in relation to dementia research, I think 2013-14? You will take that on notice? What about 2012, 2011 and 2010?	CA 31 - 06/06/2013
181	1	Di Natale	Wind farms review - Creighton study	I will get to the observers in a moment. I just want to go back to this timeline. We are talking about the last quarter of this year. I am aware that there has been some very important research published recently on this topic. In particular I am aware of the 2013 Creighton study, which was a seminal work in the area. There have also been several other reviews that have been done. Given the paucity of evidence in this field, I would like some assurance that that work is going to be included as part of the review.	CA 33 - 06/06/2013
182	1	Di Natale	Wind farms - disclosure	I want some surety that he has made those known to the NHMRC in his disclosure. Perhaps I can give you on notice the detail of that information which I would like: some surety that all of those issues were noted in his disclosure form.	CA 35 - 06/06/2013
183	1	Di Natale	Health impacts of climate change	I am talking very specifically about health impacts of climate change; is it not covered anywhere that you are aware of? Perhaps just take it on notice.	CA 37 - 06/06/2013
184	10	Fierravanti-Wells	eHealth - MOU	Can you provide me with a list of states and territories which have signed, when they signed, who is still outstanding and the reasons?	CA 95 - 05/06/2013

185	10	Fierravanti-Wells	eHealth - Shared health summaries	Is it true that approximately 20 per cent of the shared health summaries have come from one practitioner?	CA 96 - 05/06/2013
186	10	Fierravanti-Wells	eHealth - Patient records	On average, how many patient records are being accessed every day?	CA 97 - 05/06/2013
187	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Locals - Funding	Can you please provide a copy of the 'search and seizure' clauses in the deed of funding between Medicare Locals and the Department of Health and Ageing?	CA 11 - 06/06/2013
188	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Locals - Funding	How are the \$573 million and the \$394 million funding figures until 30 June 2013 derived? In particular, what is the dollar amount of core funding, flexible funding, and after hours activities allocated for use by Medicare Locals through the Regionally Tailored Primary Care Initiative from 2010-11 to 2012-13?	CA 14 - 06/06/2013
189	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Locals - Funding	On what date between 18 April and 31 May 2013 was a recommendation made to the Health Minister to extend the contracts of funding to Medicare Locals? We will also require a copy of this letter.	CA 16 - 06/06/2013
190	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Primary Care Practice Incentives	[Practice Incentives for General Practices Fund - BRE 733 forward estimates] - And that has got \$280 million, \$208 million, \$223 million and \$228 million. Can you provide me with a breakdown of what is going to be spent on each [11] PIP across the forward estimates and how many practices are expected to be eligible for each payment?	CA 41 - 06/06/2013
191	5	Fierravanti-Wells	GP Super Clinics	With the GP Super Clinics that are under construction, are any of them currently not meeting their milestones under their individual funding agreements?	CA 24 - 06/06/2013
192	5	Fierravanti-Wells	GP Super Clinics	How many of the GP Super Clinics have: a) Had their funding agreements varied? b) Which ones and for what reasons? c) To what extent has inclement weather caused delays? d) Should the original agreement have included "weather permitting", or did it include anything referring to weather?	CA 25 - 06/06/2013
193	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Cobram GP Super Clinic	At our last estimates I understood that there was completion in January for the Cobram GP Super Clinic, and then there was a funding agreement for \$1 million signed in May 2011. The \$1 million grant was to cover the fit-out of the dental equipment at that clinic. a) Can you explain what this fit-out entailed? b) What equipment was purchased? c) Did any of the funds go on salary? d) When did that fit-out occur?	CA 29 - 06/06/2013
194	5	Fierravanti-Wells	GP Super Clinics	In relation to each of the GP Super Clinics and the criteria for locating each Clinic, where relevant, have these criteria been met?	CA 40 - 06/06/2013
195	Whole of Portfolio	Rhiannon	Data on induced abortions	a) Why has the methodology developed for the 2005 publication Use of routinely collected national datasets for reporting on induced abortion in Australia not been used by the AIHW to regularly report on the estimated number of induced abortions, as was the intention expressed in the 'Executive summary' at the time? Has something changed subsequently? On what basis was the decision made not to proceed? b) From data in the 2003 and 2004 datasets that is available in your records, can you supply a breakdown of estimates of medically induced abortion by state and/or region? c) If that data is not available in your records, can you provide details of how that data could be accessed? d) May I also have any datasets that correlate the socioeconomic status of regions with abortion data?	CA 20 - 05/06/2013
196	Whole of Portfolio	Fierravanti-Wells	Older Australians admitted to hospital	I want to follow up on your report and the media release in relation to a rise in hospital admissions for older Australians. Drilling down, you say that hospital admissions for older Australians are rapidly rising. You talk about a nine per cent increase between 2007-08 and 2011-12. Can you break down for me those people over age 85, those 592 admissions that you refer to-just a breakdown of the nature of those in terms of acute as opposed to subacute?	CA 21 - 05/06/2013

197	Whole of Portfolio	Siewert	Evaluation of income management	a) When did the AIHW complete its work evaluating the outcomes of income management? b) What are the top-line outcomes? c) Has the AIHW taken on any more work as part of the ongoing evaluation of income management? Does the AIHW have any role, or any evaluation, looking at place-based income management outside of the Northern Territory? d) Did the report that COAG has just reviewed include AIHW evaluation work related to the National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes? e) Is the AIHW doing any work around the health and welfare of single parents coping with the changes in the income managements system, and their families?	CA 21 - 05/06/2013
198	10	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Infrastructure	In the next three or four months, which of the major projects are coming up?	CA 108 - 05/06/2013
199	10	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Infrastructure	Could you tell me about where we are at with the Port Macquarie Base Hospital expansion that was part of round 3? Is that due to be completed next year?	CA 108 - 05/06/2013
200	10	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Infrastructure	Health and Hospitals Fund - fund balance and interest a) So can you tell me-just in terms of the health and hospital fund-what the balance is in the fund? b) Could you also tell me how much interest the fund has earned since it was established.	CA 114 - 05/06/2013
201	10	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Infrastructure	Just bear with me for a moment. In relation to those cancer centres, Ms Smith, on the website it has: 'Project'; 'Funding (Cwth)'; 'Approximate catchment population'; 'Satellite sites', 'Services to be provided'. Could you take on notice the progress towards those projects? Against the services to be provided? Okay. Can you just tell me: are they all progressing as planned?	CA 114 - 05/06/2013
202	13	Furner	NPA on Adult Public Dental Patients	Under the second national partnership agreement, we estimate that about 1.4 million people should be able to be treated, with the same average complexity as the ones that are being treated at the moment. Can you identify the breakdown per state on that?	CA 38 - 05/06/2013
203	13	Fierravanti-Wells	MYEFO	So each was required to sign a funding agreement. Was it a standard one, or was there a template for it? Can you provide a copy of the template?	CA 32 - 05/06/2013
204	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Sub-acute beds	Can you provide me with a link to that formula?	CA 40 - 05/06/2013
205	13	Fierravanti-Wells	Performance reporting on Medicare Locals	Can you provide a list of the Medicare Locals indicators that will be reported on by the end of this month?	CA 42 - 05/06/2013
206	4	Fierravanti-Wells	COTA funded to coordinate work on behalf of NACA group	a) Could you take on notice to provide me with a copy of the relevant documents showing that NACA agreed with funding provided to COTA? b) Why was there a limited tender rather than an open tender? c) What criteria or why did you go through limited tender and not through open tender or prequalified tender? d) Why did you choose to go through that process?	CA 64 - 05/06/2013
207	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Funding provided to COTA	a) Can you provide a list of all monies that have been given to COTA and for what purpose since 2007? b) Break down of the activity or project.	CA 64 - 05/06/2013
208	4	Siewert	HACC Funding in WA	Is it possible to get a list of the organisations that get recurrent funding under the HACC program for WA?	CA 67 - 05/06/2013
209	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Review of Services provided under the HACC Program	a) Can you take on notice the timing of when the reports of the reviews are going to be completed? b) When will the review of each area be completed?	CA 69 - 05/06/2013
210	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Aged Care Financing Authority Membership	Could you take on notice the broad category of people and how many suggestions you made to the minister in relation to the appointments?	CA 75 - 05/06/2013
211	4	Siewert	Aged Care Provisions	Some of the comments in the overview probably need additional information included. I would appreciate if you could take on notice any other comments.	CA 81 - 05/06/2013
212	4	Siewert	Aged Care Providers by level of care	What is the percentage of providers that are low care, mixed low and high and high care?	CA 81 - 05/06/2013
213	4	Siewert	Care in Rural and Regional Australia	a) How many low care beds are there in rural and regional Australia? b) What is the proportion of residents in regional and remote areas broken down by low care, high care and both?	CA 82 - 05/06/2013

214	4	Fierravanti-Wells	Transition Care	a) Are the transition care monies that are going through the state hospital systems being tracked? b) So, if you could take that on notice to follow the money trail in relation to those places through the state systems?	CA 86 - 05/06/2013
215	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Training pathways for rural generalists	Can you just tell me what work Rural and Regional Health Australia is undertaking with respect to improving training pathways for rural generalists? So far as it may have not been answered, can I just put that one on notice. Can you also tell me what progress is being made towards a national training plan, as stakeholders have been calling for one? Is that, again, a workforce issue?	CA 100 - 06/06/2013
216	12	Fierravanti-Wells	District Workforce Shortage (Townsville GP Super Clinic)	In relation to the Townsville GP Super Clinic: a) Can you inform the committee of the outcome of the hearing in the Townsville Federal Magistrates Court on 20 May and 22 May regarding the use of overseas trained doctors in the Townsville GP Super Clinic? b) What was the basis for the hearing? c) What changes occurred in September 2012 regarding the use of overseas trained doctors, and did these changes affect the Townsville GP Super Clinic?	CA 38 - 06/06/2013
217	8	Payne	Indigenous Health Reform	a) On 18 April 2013 the government announced \$777 million for a renewed National Partnership on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes, which expires on 30 June 2013. Can the department provide an update on progress towards finalising the renewed agreement with the states and territories? b) Can the department provide advice about what progress was made in negotiating the renewed agreement with the states and territories before the announcement on 18 April? c) Were the states and territories advised in advance that the Commonwealth would be making this announcement of \$777 million in funding, and if so, when were they advised?	Written QoN
218	8	Payne	Indigenous Health Reform	On 20 May 2013 an article in the Australian newspaper reported that a month after the announcement of the new funding, no states or territories had signed on to the deal and Minister Warren Snowdon had written to the states "begging" them to sign on. Can the department advise on what date the Minister wrote to the states and territories, and whether any have responded?	Written QoN
219	8	Siewert	Stronger Futures	What I would like to know, under the health components: the breakdown of the programs, and what the funding has been for each of those as far as possible. The gross figures I have do not give any indication of that or any indication of what is going to be on target and what is not.	CA 23 - 07/06/2013
220	8	Siewert	Stronger Futures	In regards to Stronger Futures which targets have been achieved?	CA 24 - 07/06/2013
221	8	Siewert	Renal	Was the funding that flows to community based health organisations held up as part of signing of the agreement with the Northern Territory government?	CA 24 - 07/06/2013
222	8	Siewert	Renal Dialysis	In regards to renal dialysis, if it is not a money value, what would WA be expected to contribute for Kiwirrkurra and Warburton?	CA 38 - 07/06/2013
223	8	Siewert	Renal Dialysis	Senator Siewert "I appreciate this will take a larger answer, but could you provide an update on initiatives that have been announced. There have been other announcements made around end-stage kidney disease and providing chairs around the rest of Australia. Could you provide us with an update about where the implementation of those programs are up to. Over the previous two budgets I think- or two years ago- there was funding provided for accommodation, for example, in Western Australia and for the provision of additional chairs. Perhaps you could take that on-" Could you provide an update on end-stage kidney disease initiatives that have been announced including where they are up to?	CA 40 - 07/06/2013
224	8	Fierravanti-Wells	Renal Dialysis	In the target group for dialysis services, what is the age range of patients receiving dialysis services in Alice Springs? Can you just give me a basic range of ages?	CA 40 - 07/06/2013
225	8	Siewert	Renal Dialysis	Can you also give us the waiting lists and demand being placed on Alice Springs at the moment in terms of renal patients? If there is any other regional data, do you have up to date figures on what waiting lists are and what demands there are on the services?	CA 40 - 07/06/2013
226	2	Heffernan	Patent Litigation	Is there a list of other things which you could provide on notice where evergreening issues are impacting on the Budget?	CA 103 - 06/06/2013

227	2	Fierravanti-Wells	PBAC Submissions	For this financial year: a)How many major submissions have been made to the PBAC? b)How many have received a positive recommendation? c)How many have been listed by the Government, and are available on the PBS	CA 115 - 06/06/2013
228	2	Fierravanti-Wells	PBAC Submissions	Over the last five years (broken down by year): a)How many major submissions were received by the PBAC? b)How many of those received a positive recommendation? c)How many in turn have been listed by the Government and are available on the PBS?	CA 115 - 06/06/2013
229	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Health Workforce	a)Can you clarify how this figure was derived? b)Can you confirm that the \$5.6 billion is not exclusively for rural health professionals as the statement seems to suggest?	CA 118 - 05/06/2013
230	12	Di Natale	Medical rural Bonded Scholarship Scheme and the Bonded Medical Places Scheme	a)how many people who completed fellowships are fulfilling their obligations? b)how many are not? c)how many people who did not reach fellowship have withdrawn?	CA 120 - 05/06/2013
231	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Nursing and Allied Health Rural Locum Scheme	a)How much in locum payment goes directly to the nurse of allied health professional? b)how many locum placements have been provided every year since this program was established; c)the average duration of each placement; and d)the average total cost per placement?	CA 122 - 05/06/2013
232	12	Fierravanti-Wells	Nursing and Allied Health Rural Locum Scheme	What is the average cost per week for the locum under the program and what does it cover?	CA 125 - 05/06/2013
233	12	Fierravanti-Wells	19AB Exemption	a)How many applications for exemptions has the department received since the guidelines was changed? b)How many applications for exemptions has the department granted since the guidelines was updated?	CA 124 - 05/06/2013
234	12	Fierravanti-Wells	19AB	What is the breakdown of applications by ASGC-RA: a)How many were successful b)How many were unsuccessful c)What was the most cited reason for exemption applications?	CA 124 - 05/06/2013
235	12	Fierravanti-Wells	District of Workforce Shortage	Charters Road GP Super Clinic a)Has the clinic previously applied to use overseas trained doctors, and what dates? Are you aware of that? b)Is, or has Townsville ever been a district of workforce shortage, that allows the use of overseas trained doctors? c)are other clinics in Townsville allowed to employ overseas trained doctors? d)Why has the Department decided that the Townsville GP Super Clinic was not able to employ overseas trained doctors?	CA 30 - 06/06/2013
236	10	Boyce	PCEHR	Can you detail the progress or lack of it in establishing 1800PCEHR1 support line for software vendors whose clients are having problems?	Written QoN
237	10	Boyce	PCEHR	a)What is the current status of the eHealth Vendors new website? b)It was due for completion in November 2012. Why the delay?	Written QoN
238	13	Di Natale	Activity Based Funding	At the 2013 Post Budget Health Briefing, the Minister for Health said that Activity Based Funding effectively uncaps Commonwealth funding to hospitals, and creates incentives for consumers to be treated in hospital: a)Will this generate higher volumes of hospital procedures at the expense of non-surgical interventions? b)Has any research been undertaken to investigate the impact of placing these incentives at the acute end of the care spectrum? c)Have any complementary pricing mechanisms been considered to provide incentives for primary and preventative interventions outside hospital?	Written QoN
239	13	Di Natale	Activity Based Funding	Under the Activity Based Funding model, hospitals with costs above the fixed price for each service will make a loss on that service. Some hospitals will be able to respond to this scenario by improving efficiency, but many will need to compromise the quality of care provided to patients, or, stop offering services that are not profitable. In relation to the impact that this is likely to have on access to services: a)What measures are in place to stop hospitals from transferring complex patients to other hospitals wanting to increase their patient volume? b)What measures are in place to stop hospitals from transferring complex patients to other settings not covered by Activity Based Funding? c)What measures are in place to stop hospitals from divesting services on the basis of cost? d)Are any measures under consideration to ameliorate the impact of Activity Based Funding on the hospital stays, the ratio of registered nurses to patients, and other indicators of quality care?	Written QoN

240	13	Di Natale	Activity Based Funding	Throughout consultations in 2012 and 2013, stakeholders have recommended that Activity Based Funding exclude funding for medical errors. Examples of procedures that were recommended for exclusion include procedures involving wrong patients or body parts, re?operations caused by retained instruments after surgical procedure, blood transfusion reaction, infant discharge to wrong family, intravascular gas embolism resulting in death or neurological damage, entrapment in bed accessories resulting in death or major loss of functions. a)Why has the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority continued to delay these exclusions, which would create incentives for reducing medical errors? b)When will the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority be in a position to move towards this model?	Written QoN
241	13	Di Natale	Activity Based Funding	Under the Activity Based Funding model, hospitals can make a profit from services provided at a cost less than the fixed price. This provides hospitals with incentives to deliver services that generate the greatest profits. However, research shows that the most profitable services are not necessarily those that produce the best health outcomes for consumers. What steps are being taken to address the potential for misallocation of funds under Activity Based Funding?	Written QoN
242	12	Di Natale	Workforce Capacity	a)In its 2011-12 annual report, the Department notes that the number of general practices receiving incentives for employing practice nurses is below the Department's target? Does more recent data indicate that the shortfall is continuing? b)What measures to redress this shortfall have been evaluated?	Written QoN
243	12	Di Natale	Workforce Capacity	Has the Department evaluated the costs, benefits and viability of introducing physician assistants in Australia (a reform option canvassed favourably in a Health Workforce Australia Report)?	Written QoN
244	12	Di Natale	Workforce Capacity	Has the Department evaluated the option of licencing pharmacists to provide vaccinations?	Written QoN
245	12	Di Natale	Pathology Payments	a)In answer to Senate Question 2662, the Minister revealed that two private pathology companies received more than \$1 billion in pathology benefits in 2010-11. One received just over \$604 million, the other just over \$508 million. Both companies will know who they are. Together these two companies account for almost two thirds of pathology benefits paid in that year. What are the names of those two companies? b)Is the Department working on any proposals to change the basis of pathology payment onto a commercial footing rather than an open-ended funding system with few drivers for efficiency?	Written QoN
246	1	Siewert	Opal Fuel	In the public debate around the development of the LAF Bill it became clear that a number of Central Australian Retailers (located in the NT, SA and QLD) are refusing to stock Opal fuel and that this is thought to be causing petrol sniffing in nearby communities (many of which have switched to using Opal years ago), what progress has the department made in progressing the implementation of the bill and using it to effectively force these retailers to switch to Opal Fuel?	Written QoN
247	1	Siewert	Opal Fuel	The government has indicated that it intends to give retailers a grace period in which to voluntarily switch to Opal (and stop selling standard unleaded) ahead enacting powers under the Bill. Is the clock ticking on these Central Australian Retailers that have refused to stock LAF for many years? Or is their grace period over?	Written QoN
248	1	Siewert	Opal Fuel	There has been a recent outbreak of sniffing in a community north of Alice Springs , not far off the Stuart Highway this community stocks Opal fuel in its own store but is surrounded by Non-Opal outlets, a number of which are considered to be refusing to stock Opal fuel. Has the clock started ticking ion these retail outlets? At which point will the powers of the LAF bill be used to force them to case selling standard unleaded and then hopefully stock Opal.	Written QoN
249	1	Siewert	Opal Fuel	What is the status of the construction of the Darwin LAF storage point? When is it expected to be completed. Can you provide details of how this completion date has shifted back in recent years? What consultancies/studies/ reports have been commissioned in relation to the construction of this storage point? What is the value of these contracts?	Written QoN
250	1	Siewert	Opal Fuel	What is the expected model for managing the Darwin Low Aromatic Fuel storage point? Will the Department own it or will be leased?	Written QoN

251	5	Fierravanti-Wells	Medicare Locals - Funding	How will the Northern Sydney Medicare Local reimburse aged-care specialists for their time when they attend quarterly membership meetings?	CA 17 - 06/06/2013
252	1	Smith	Impact of overseas transplantation	Provide data, if available, on the number of patients in the public hospital system for follow-up treatment after an overseas transplant.	CA 28 - 05/06/2013
253	1	Boyce	TB	a)Is the Department aware of the recent incidents involving MDRTB infections in Cairns and the Torres Strait with the death of a resident of Saibai Island -the confirmed infection of four people with whom the victim had contact including a baby, and the possible cross infection of another 61 people in North Queensland? b)What is the Department's view of these events as they impact on the infection risks in the Torres Strait?	Written QoN
254	1	Boyce	TB	a)Villagers along the PNG -Torres Strait coast line have reported to the visiting chief medical officer of Queensland that TB cases are on a dramatic rise and that villagers say the Australian funded sea ambulance is not regularly visiting the region to distribute TB medications and that the TB crisis and the attendant concerns of villagers along the southern coastline of PNG are being ignored. Is the Department aware of these matters? b)Has the Department sought information from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and/or AusAID about those matters? What information has been sought? In what form? Can you please provide it? c)Has the Department sought information/ briefing from or with the Chief Medical Officer of Queensland about these matters? Has that briefing occurred? If not when is one scheduled?	Written QoN
255	1	Boyce	TB	Has DoHA been advised by AusAid and/or DFAT of any evidence of corruption or mismanagement of medical facilities in PNG, or of a growing illegal trade in Australian-funded TB medications?	Written QoN
256	1	Boyce	TB	In DOHA's opinion what is the level of risk of cross border infections that affect Australian citizens in Northern Australia? Can the Department please provide supporting information for this opinion?	Written QoN
257	1	Boyce	TB	Would any of the events and factors listed above (qOnS 13-253 - 256) encourage the Department to recommend a change of policy and support the re-opening of the TB Clinics on Boigu and Saibai?	Written QoN