

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 - 2 June 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000520

**OUTCOME:** 8 - Health Workforce Capacity

**Topic:** Scholarships

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

**Senator:** Brown, Carol

**Question:**

The Budget Measure "Streamlining Health Workforce Scholarships" identifies savings of \$72.5 million over four years (broken down by year).

- a) Please provide a breakdown of this saving between money being removed from scholarships and savings from reduced administration.
- b) What was the justification for including the Bonded Medical Places Scholarships and the changes to the Bonded Medical Places Scheme in this budget measure, given they are separate to the Health Workforce Scholarships?

**Answer:**

- a) A breakdown of the split between administration costs and scholarship funding cannot be estimated until after a new administrator has been appointed to manage the new programme, following a competitive tender process.
- b) In future all bonded students, including those under the Bonded Medical Places programme, and those who receive scholarships under the Health Workforce Scholarship programme, will receive support from the new administrator of the scholarship programme to identify opportunities to complete their return of service. This will be part of the competitive tender process.