

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-219

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: PROGRAM SPENDING

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) Are there any programs within your portfolio that are likely to exceed their current budget. If yes, please provide details (for example a demand driven program that has had higher than anticipated take up).
- b) Are there any programs within your portfolio that are likely to underspend their current budget. If yes, please provide details (for example a demand driven program that has had lower than anticipated take up).

Answer:

a and b)

Actual expenditure is monitored against the budget estimates on a continuous basis. Identified potential underspends and overspends are agreed with the Department of Finance and Deregulation and estimates are adjusted accordingly. This constant adjustment of estimates ensures close alignment between program expenditure and financial allocations from Government.

Underspends and overspends that become apparent through the year will be reflected in revised estimates and published in the Health and Ageing 2010-11 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements tabled with the 2010-11 Additional Estimates Bills or in the Health and Ageing 2011-12 Portfolio Budget Statements.