

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-382

OUTCOME 10: Health System Capacity and Quality

Topic: HEALTH AND HOSPITALS FUND (HHF)

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) Who will assess round 3, regional priority round applications?
- b) Are they Departmental staff or external experts, or is it a Ministerial decision?
- c) On what basis were they chosen to make the assessment?
- d) Has any documentation in relation to the assessment of applications been produced for these people to help them make their decision?
- e) If so, will the department provide a copy of it?

Answer:

a, b and c)

The HHF Advisory Board. The *Nation-building Funds Act 2008* provides that the Health Minister may appoint persons to the Advisory Board. The Board will draw on the advice of the Department, independent experts, and state and territory governments.

Independent experts were nominated by the Board with the advice of the Department and the Chief Medical Officer

- d) The Department prepares briefs on each application to assist the Board in its assessments.
- e) No.