

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-207

OUTCOME 6: Rural Health

Topic: RURAL AND REGIONAL HEALTH AGENCY

Written Question on Notice

Senator Adams asked:

The Government announced in 2010-11 Budget that it would establish a dedicated unit within the Department of Health and Ageing to provide advice to the public on regional health and aged care matters. It is part of the Government's 'Commitment to Regional Australia' agreement with the Member for Lyne, and the Member for New England.

- a) Is this the Regional Health Australia referred to on page 6 of DoHA 2010-11 Annual Report?
- b) If so, how many staff? Staffing structure?
- c) Estimated cost?

Answer:

- a) Yes.
- b) The average staffing level is 52.6 staff across six teams.
- c) The Budget for the Agency in 2011-12 is \$174,630,000.00 (GST exclusive), which includes funds for rural and regional programs and salaries.