

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3 – Ageing

Question No: 587

Topic: Kingsborough Volunteer Program

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Polley asked:

The Kingborough Volunteer Program run by Kingborough Council was unsuccessful in the last round of HACC funding.

- a. With such a heavy emphasis in the grant assessment process on value for money, how is the higher cost of delivering to rural and remote areas factored in to ensure people in those areas have equitable access to the HACC program compared to clients in urban areas?
- b. How does the application process allow service providers serving rural and remote areas to explain how their unit cost is affected by serving these areas?
- c. Is the Department considering how they can improve the process of making these comparisons in future rounds? If so, what changes are under consideration?

Answer:

- a. The 2013 Commonwealth HACC funding round classified the entire area of Tasmania as rural and remote for the purposes of ensuring that factors influencing unit costs in the state were assessed equitably.
- b. In the 2013 Commonwealth HACC funding Round, all applicants were advised to consider all costs for service delivery when calculating the amount of funding sought. Applicants were given the opportunity to provide further information about service types targeted to particular Commonwealth HACC special needs groups, including people living in remote or isolated areas.
- c. There are no Commonwealth HACC Program funding rounds scheduled at this time.