

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016**

**Ref No:** SQ16-000372

**OUTCOME:** 0 - Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** Medicare Freeze

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 5, 19 October 2016

**Senator:** Polley, Helen

**Question:**

Senator POLLEY: I would imagine you do, but I just wondered if there had been any discussion about lifting it. Have you contributed modelling and information to inform Treasury costings in relation to the Medicare freeze being lifted? You have done none of that?

Mr Bowles: I would have to you take that on notice. Over time we would have provided information to Treasury, but there is nothing specific at the moment that I am aware of on that.

**Answer:**

As it is current Government policy that the pause on Medicare indexation continue until 1 July 2020, the Department has not formally costed an earlier return to indexation.