

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

**Budget Estimates**

29 May – 31 May 2012

**Question: BET 142**

**Topic: Productivity Commission Report – National Disability Insurance Scheme**

**Hansard Page: Thursday 31 May 2012, page 54**

**Senator FIFIELD asked:**

Senator FIFIELD: In the Productivity Commission report there is a table which has the likely annual net additional spend, year by year, which you are probably familiar with. It is \$50 million in 2012-13, \$550 million in 2014-15, \$900 million in 2014-15, then compounding up by a billion a year until you get to \$6.5 billion. Did you do a breakdown of what those figures would be, year by year, in light of your work?

Mr Martin: What you will see with those figures is that the year-on-year changes relate directly to the number of people that are assumed to be admitted to the scheme each year. So 2018-19 is when the thing is fully rolled out.

Senator FIFIELD: There is a billion extra there.

Mr Martin: Yes, but if you look at only the top line of that table you can see the population in the scheme. That is the year that they get to their 411,000. What we did for 2018-19 was we made an approximate estimate of the number of people you would be talking about then, allowing for demographic changes over the intervening period, and to factor in some allowances for inflationary forces, including the SACS.

Senator FIFIELD: I appreciate you came up with a figure for 2018-19. Did you come up with any numbers for the preceding years? For a particular year it might be 100 million more than—

Mr Martin: For the intervening years?

Senator FIFIELD: Yes, for the intervening years.

Mr Martin: I cannot remember.

Ms Antcliff: We did a number of scenarios to model possible different start-up regimes in terms of the number of people who would be covered in different years. Our focus was certainly on the full implementation and what the cost would be at that point.

Senator FIFIELD: Has the actuary done any further work on the NDIS for government since that report was presented to Treasury?

Mr Martin: We are responding to requests from Treasury as they come. As you know, they are in the process of thinking about how to implement what was in the budget, so we are being asked about that as we go.

Senator FIFIELD: Would it be possible for a copy of the report which was provided to Treasury to be tabled for this committee?

Mr Martin: We will take it on notice. Yes, it should be fine; it is with the states and territories. We will take it on notice.

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**Answer:**

Please refer to Attachment A.