

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

**Budget Estimates**

29 May – 31 May 2012

**Question:** BET 442-446

**Topic:** Economic Potential of Senior Australians Advisory Panel on Positive Ageing. Budget Paper 2 page 278

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Nash asked:**

442. Has the department identified those who will sit on the panel? How were those panellists identified?
443. What criteria will the department use to identify the panellists?
444. How many staff will this program require?
445. Will this panel require a permanent office? If so where will it be based and what budget has been set aside for this?
446. What budget has been set aside for travel for this panel?

**Answer:**

442. Yes, the Government has appointed members to the panel. The current members are:
- Mr Everaldo Compton AM (Chair);
  - Professor Brian Howe AO;
  - Professor Gill Lewin; and
  - Commissioner Susan Ryan AO.
  - Mr Neville Roach AO.

The first three panel members are previous members of the Advisory Panel on the Economic Potential of Senior Australians (EPSA). They were appointed to ensure that the Advisory Panel on Positive Ageing would continue to build on the work of EPSA.

Commissioner Ryan has been appointed reflecting her experience as the Age Discrimination Commissioner.

Mr Roach is a business and community leader. His appointment reflects his contribution to and understanding of the IT industry, the Education and Research sector, the development of social policy, especially relating to immigration and multicultural community relations, and Australia's overseas relations, especially with India.

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The following factors were also taken into consideration: previous work on ageing matters, ability to raise the public profile of ageing issues and ability to bring a wide range of life and professional experience in issues relating to senior Australians, social policy and health and ageing.

- 443. See answer to 442.
- 444. Staffing requirements will vary depending on the Panel's priorities and endeavours at different points in time. The Department of Treasury has provided dedicated staff to provide secretariat support to the panel.
- 445. It is not envisaged that the panel itself will require a permanent office (noting that a Secretariat has been established in the Department of the Treasury to support the Panel).
- 446. A sufficient budget has been allocated to the Panel for the purposes of holding routine meetings in Canberra and to undertake some ad-hoc stakeholder consultations.