

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

**Group: 1**

**Program: Whole-of-Portfolio**

**Question No. SBE14/147**

**Senator Ludwig asked the following written question from the 20 November and 11 December 2014 hearings.**

1. Since 7 September 2013: Are non-conventional therapies, for staff or ministerial use, able to be provided by the department/agency? (Including, but not limited to: Music Therapy, Hypnosis, Acupuncture, Chiropractic, Homeopathy, Naturopathy, etc) If yes:
  - a. What is the process by which these therapies can be approved?
  - b. Who are they available to?
  - c. Please detail the reasons the therapies able to be provided (e.g. Work Place Agreement, recommended by a report to the department, etc)?
2. Has the department/agency paid for any non-conventional therapy for any Minister or staff?  
If yes:
  - a. What therapies have been provided?
  - b. What were they used to treat?
3. What was the cost of the therapy?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

1-3: The portfolio, other than the Attorney-General's Department, has not provided non-conventional therapies to its employees.

**Attorney-General's Department**

1. Non-SES employees are eligible for reimbursement of up to \$100 each financial year for expenditure associated with attempts to quit smoking. Such expenditure could relate to non-conventional therapies such as acupuncture or hypnosis. Their manager must have documented evidence of expenditure before approving.
- 2-3 Since September 2013 one employee was reimbursed.