

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

16 February 2012

Question No: AET 5

Topic: Private health insurance rebate – provision of information to ATO

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Senator CORMANN: Given that it starts from 1 July, when would people be expected to inform their insurers of their anticipated income for 2012-2013?

Mr Quigley: That will be up to the individual to advise their private health insurer. It is really up to them. It is really an arrangement between the private health insurer and the individual.

Senator CORMANN: Would there be a requirement for insurers to provide that information to the ATO?

Mr Quigley: We certainly would get that information, I would think. I would like to take that on notice as to what arrangements there are for that.

Answer:

Private health insurers currently report a range of information to the ATO via Medicare. This information includes details of policy holders and members, premiums paid, rebate received as a premium reduction and type of cover. Private health insurers will continue to submit this and additional information via Medicare. The additional information required will be determined by the new legislative requirements.