

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 15 OCTOBER 2012

PM&C Portfolio

Department/Agency: National Mental Health Commission
Outcome/Program: National Mental Health Commission
Topic: Public Service Efficiency

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 79

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 30 November 2012

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Please detail how the department/agency will achieve savings over the forward estimates through pursuing further efficiencies in the way the public service operates (see media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State of 25 September 2012 http://www.financminister.gov.au/media/20198201212/mr_.html).

In addition, please provide the following detail:

How will reductions in air travel spending be achieved? What is the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

What restrictions will be implemented for business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

How will the use of external consultants and contractors be reduced? How will this impact on the Department/agency? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

How will the department/agency manage moving recruitment advertising online? Will all future recruitment advertisement be online only? If not, explain why. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

How will printing costs be reduced? Explain if and how the department/agency will reduce its printing costs by five per cent, or if it will not, why not? How will it be determined what documents will no longer be printed? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?

Answer:

The National Mental Health Commission has a Departmental savings target of \$33,570 over the forward estimates to 2015-16. Monthly monitoring of budget performance will take account of those savings targets.

As a small agency the Commission will adhere to Government policies such as non-campaign advertising and monitor closely expenditure in all areas of Departmental activity.