

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
HEALTH PORTFOLIO
2020-21 BUDGET ESTIMATES - INDEX OF QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – 26 – 27 OCTOBER 2020

| PDR No | Outcome | Senator | Subject | Question | Hansard Page(s)/Written |
|-------------|--|----------------|--|--|-------------------------|
| SQ20-000337 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Bilyk, Catryna | National Pancreatic Cancer Roadmap | <p>Please list all consultation meetings that have been held, and upcoming meetings that are scheduled to be held, in the development of the National Pancreatic Cancer Roadmap, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Dates of the meetings; o Location of the meetings (if held face-to-face); o Stakeholders and other participants included. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is Cancer Australia on track to have the Roadmap developed by December 2021 as expected? If not, what is the expected completion date? • Will the report of the Senate Select Committee into Funding for Research into Cancers with Low Survival Rates be considered as an input into the Roadmap? • Will the Roadmap be implemented immediately after development or will stakeholders be invited to give feedback on the Roadmap first? How long will the feedback period be before the Roadmap is finalised? • In regards to the implementation of the Roadmap: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o What is the timeframe? o Who is responsible for implementation? o If multiple agencies/organisations are responsible for implementation who will be overseeing it? o How much, if any, funding has been allocated to implementing the Roadmap? o Of the funding in (d) please specify the sources of funding and the amount coming from each source broken down by financial year over the period for which the funding has been committed. • Will the Roadmap include identified targets, such as pancreatic cancer five-year survival rates, and timeframes in which the targets are to be achieved? • What mechanism will be in place for reporting on progress against the actions and targets in the Roadmap? What is the reporting frequency? Will these reports be publicly available? | Written |
| SQ20-000338 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Bilyk, Catryna | National Dust Disease Taskforce Final Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide an update on the expected timing of the release of the National Dust Disease Taskforce's final report. • Please provide a detailed update on progress to date on implementing each of the recommendations in the Taskforce's interim advice. | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the Taskforce given any indication to the Government that it may recommend additional regulation of cutting stone products, including a ban? Will the Government accept such a recommendation, if made? • Has the Government given any consideration to what financial assistance may be necessary to businesses and workers to adapt should further regulation on cutting stone products, including a ban, be introduced? | |
| SQ20-000339 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Keneally, Kristina | Agreements with Pfizer | <p>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you. We will come back to the app later on, but, if I could, I'll also ask about vaccines. The Pfizer candidate is one of the two that have received provisional determination from the TGA. The other, I understand, is Oxford AstraZeneca, for which Australia now has a supply agreement. Do we have a deal or an agreement with Pfizer?</p> <p>Dr Murphy: Not at this stage. Pfizer are one of the many companies that we are in active discussion with.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Can the department confirm that at least seven other jurisdictions already have agreements with Pfizer to access this vaccine?</p> <p>Dr Murphy: I haven't got that. We can look that up, but, off the top of my head, I would imagine that would likely be accurate. We are in active discussion with a significant number of other suppliers of vaccines.</p> | Page 5, 26 October |
| SQ20-000340 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Griff, Stirling | Aged care funding during the pandemic | <p>Financial Transparency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The \$563.3 million in additional pandemic response funding announced in a joint media release two months ago by Ministers Hunt and Colbeck release, which states, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o "Providers will be required to report how these funds were used for additional COVID-19 related costs through strict requirements in providers' end of financial year returns". • Can you provide in detail what these 'strict' reporting requirements are? • That announcement took the funding to support aged care to manage the pandemic to over \$1.5b. Did the previous \$1 billion dollars of funding for aged care come with the same 'strict' reporting requirements as the amounts announced in August 2020? • What are the penalties to providers for not spending the money as Government has intended? • Of that \$1.5 billion than has been allocated for aged care over the course of the pandemic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o How much of this money has been expended and how much is yet to be paid? | Written |

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| SQ20-000341 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Release of Productivity Commission report | <p>Senator SIEWERT: I've still got a little bit of my time left. Could I could jump to something else—and I'm asking this in cross-portfolio because it's a government issue rather than a department issue—that is, the release of the Productivity Commission's report on mental health. I'm going to ask for details in Mental Health, but I want to ask about when it's likely that that report is going to be released.</p> <p>Dr Murphy: It's a decision for government.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Minister, do you have any idea?</p> <p>Senator Cash: Again, it would be a decision for government.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Is it going to be soon?</p> <p>Senator Cash: I would need to take that on notice.</p> | Page 11, 26 October |
| SQ20-000342 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Griff, Stirling | Home care package allocation and wait times | <p>Home Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As at 30 June 2020 there were 102,081 people waiting for a home care package at their approved level, with 15,873 waiting for a level 4 package. • How many are currently waiting for a home care package broken down by package levels? • What are the projected wait times for each of the package levels? • Of the 6105 home care packages announced by the Government in July and the additional 23,000 places announced in the Budget (to 2023-24): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 7,035 are for level 1 packages; o 10,035 are for level 2 packages; o 10,035 are for level 3 packages; and o 2,000 are for level 4 packages. o How did the Department determine how it would allocate places per package levels? • Why were so few level 4 packages provided for? Is the cost of around \$52,000 for a level 4 package a factor in offering such few places? • How many of the 6,105 places announced in July have been offered and how many have been accepted by those waiting? • Does the Department have modelling on how many of the remaining 70,000 Senior Australians still waiting for a home care package at their approved level are expected to die while waiting for their package? | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the Department concede that the lengthy wait lists will force many people into residential aged care that would have preferred to stay living in their own homes? | |
| SQ20-000343 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Griff, Stirling | Aged Care Quality Indicators reporting and accountability | <p>Quality Indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to the Residential Aged Care Quality Indicators quarterly report for April to June 2020, there was a 94% response rate across the three indicators - Use of restraints; Pressure injuries; and Unexplained weight loss – despite this now being a mandatory reporting requirement. The report also said this was consistent with the number of services had reported in the previous two quarters. • So do you routinely have less than 100% reporting from providers in receipt of Government subsidies on these mandatory indicators? Is this acceptable? • How many providers on average is this per quarter that fail to provide the necessary data for the 3 quality indicators? • Are there any penalties or consequences for providers which neglect to report on the indicators? if so, what penalties have been applied to those providers for failure to comply, and how many penalties have been issued? • Will the Department publish the names of the providers who have failed to provide the mandatory data? • Has the reporting of this data resulted in any investigations or follow up with any providers for suspected neglect or mismanagement of resident care? (Is the data even being used for this purpose? If not, how is it actually being used?) • For the April to June 2020 quarter there are 11,910 reports of pressure injuries in residential aged care. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Pressure sores are preventable - in fact they are easier to prevent than to treat. o If left untreated or not treated early they can lead to life-threatening complications. o Does the department have a view as to why there were reports of 4,994 stage 1, 5048 stage 2, 710 stage 3, 244 stage 4, 593 unstageable (or depth unknown) and 321 suspected deep tissue pressure injuries? • Have any aged care providers faced sanctions for pressure injuries in their facilities? • Is the Department able to advise how many aged care residents in Australia have died from preventable pressure injuries or resulting complications over the 2019-2020 reporting period? • The Quality Indicator program won't be expanded until 1 July 2021 to include falls, fractures and | Written |

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| | | | | <p>medication management.</p> <p>o Why was the decision made for a staggered approach to the QI program and is the program on track to deliver these additional quality indicators by that date?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research conducted by the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) for the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety shows that the Government could immediately establish independent, transparent, routine monitoring and public reporting of many aspects of aged care quality outcomes without any burden to providers. <p>o Has the Department met with SAHMRI to discuss the research conducted in relation to quality indicators and, if not, does it intend to?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When will we see quality indicators on hospital re-admissions, hospitalisation for dementia / delirium, pain and premature mortality among others that SAHMRI say can be obtained now? • Why is it taking so long to have such simple data, already at the disposal of aged care providers, made public? • Does the Government intend to also introduce quality outcome reporting for home care? | |
| SQ20-000344 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Siewert, Rachel | Rollout of Health Programs because of the pandemic | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take that on notice, please. In the rest of my very short remaining time I want to go to the issue of delays in health programs or the rollout of health programs because of the pandemic. Have any policy or program initiatives been delayed or suspended because of the pandemic?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: There's no question that our main focus—and that of the whole health system in Australia—has been on COVID.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Of course.</p> <p>...Senator SIEWERT: I'm going to get pinged at any minute. Could you take that on notice—you said you've been looking at it—to give us a more comprehensive list.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: Can we take on notice to give you a description? I wouldn't want to commit to an exhaustive—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes. I take your point.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: We'll give you some key examples.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you then also take on notice more detail about how you plan to catch it up.</p> <p>...Senator SIEWERT: So you will take on notice the two things, the description and the plan—where</p> | Page 12, 26 October |

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| | | | | to from here? Ms Edwards: Yes. | |
| SQ20-000345 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Griff, Stirling | Aged care surge workforce | <p>Surge Workforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Federal Government had a role in funding the surge workforce for aged care providers. • Were aged care providers able to hire any additional staff they could find, and be reimbursed, or could they only draw staff from the three organisations indicated on the Aged Care Workforce Support FAQ issued on 3 July: Mable; Recruitment Consulting Staffing Association (RCSA); Healthcare Australia (HCA).? • Did the Federal government have any other role other than funding providers for surge staff? Did it provide any guidance or assistance around training or undertake any additional auditing? • Was there any requirement in place that surge staff had minimum qualifications in aged care? If not, why not? • Is the Department aware what proportion of the more than 2600 health care workers in Victoria who became infected with COVID-19 were part of the surge workforce? • Has the Department learned any lessons from the Victorian experience with surge staff which it would apply in the event of another outbreak in Australia? | Written |
| SQ20-000346 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Griff, Stirling | Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission notices issued, funding and visits | <p>Aged Care Quality and Safeguards Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many 'Notice of revocation of approval as a provider of aged care' has the Commission issued pursuant to section 63L under the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Act 2018. • How many 'Revocation of approval of approved provider pursuant to section 63J(b) of the Act has the Commission issued? • Regarding the \$101.2 million allocated for aged care preparedness (of the \$1.5b for pandemic response)): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A portion of that money was for infection control online training for aged care staff to be provided by the Commission, as well as to fund the Commission to work with providers on improving infection control. • Has infection control online training been conducted for all aged staff across all residential aged care facilities and providing home care services? If not, will it be? • How much money was allocated to the Commission to work with providers on improving infection control and how has the Commission undertaken this work? | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Commission's annual report says when the pandemic began to impact Australia and specifically the aged care sector, the Commission moved quickly to adjust its regulatory approach and prioritise the safety, health and well-being of aged care 'consumers' to use your terminology. • Why has the Commission only completed 157 infection control visits, and can you break that number down per state and territory and what dates those visits occurred? • Why were there only 36 unannounced visits? • 121 visits were 'at short notice' - what does the Commission consider to be at short notice? | |
| SQ20-000348 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Rennick, Gerard | COVID-19 comorbidities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What percentage of persons in Australia who have died of Covid-19 have had comorbidities including but not limited to diabetes, high blood pressure or other cardiovascular illness? • Why aren't comorbidities being reported alongside Covid deaths? • How many people die from influenza and other respiratory illness each year in Australia? Could a link to the dataset that tracks this information please be provided? • What is the average age of a person who has died of Covid-19 in Australia? • What is the number of consultations/check-ups for non-respiratory diseases year to date? • What is the number of consultations/check-ups for non-respiratory diseases per year for the last five years? | Written |
| SQ20-000349 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Thorpe, Lidia | Sports grants and Inclusive Sport Toolkit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will sporting organisations and clubs that missed out on Community Sport Infrastructure Grants because of the Sports Rorts scandal receive funding to upgrade their sporting infrastructure? • How does Sports Australia ensure that its processes to determine recipients of funding grants is transparent and accountable? • How many clubs or organisations have used the Inclusive Sport Toolkit, and how many of those have completed the steps outlined in the Toolkit for inclusive sport? | Written |
| SQ20-000350 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Thorpe, Lidia | Sourcing of rubber gloves prior to and currently during COVID-19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From which suppliers/countries is the Australian Government sourcing its medical rubber gloves in the response to COVID-19? • How many medical rubber gloves has the Australian Government procured: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from July 2019-February 2020 • from March 2020-June 2020 • from July 2020-present? • How much has the Australian Government spent on the procurement of medical rubber gloves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from July 2019-February 2020 | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from March 2020-June 2020 • from July 2020-present? | |
| SQ20-000351 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Consultations on Youth | <p>Senator McCARTHY: So, as the minister for youth, how many young people have you directly consulted with this year?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I'd have to take that on notice. I've had a number of consultations and spoken at a number of virtual events, like we all have during COVID-19, but I'd have to take that on notice and provide the committee with some detail on that, am I'm happy to do that.</p> | Page 6, 27 October |
| SQ20-000352 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | MRFF Meetings since 2017 | <p>Senator McCARTHY: Can I ask this question to be taken on notice: could you provide a list of all meetings between the minister, his office, or the department and government relations advisers or lobbyists in relation to the MRFF since the minister's appointment in 2017.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: We could take on notice to provide a list of any meetings of which we're aware or we attended, but we certainly wouldn't be able to provide a list of meetings the minister had if we're not aware.</p> <p>Ms Somi: I'll just add that we're reliant on people disclosing to us. I meet with a range of stakeholders around the MRFF, so people would need to advise us that they are government relations managers. I may not be aware of all of those people.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Could you take the question on notice, and table that.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: That's fine. We'll take it on notice.</p> | Page 2, 26 October |
| SQ20-000353 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Youth Advocacy Support grant | <p>Senator McCARTHY: Thank you, Chair. How did you advertise and encourage organisations to apply, and how many did?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: Thank you for the question. As we discussed yesterday, because those programs are in outcome 2.4, the relevant staff member was here yesterday with the detail. I can take it on notice. I can tell you that there was a lot of interest in the grant programs and there were a lot of applications. We can come back to you on notice with what we can provide about those programs.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: How and by whom were they assessed?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I will come back to you on notice about the detail of it.</p> | Page 7, 27 October |
| SQ20-000354 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Hughes, Hollie | Vaping risks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 27 October 2020, Adjunct Professor John Skerritt made the following statement at a Senate Estimates hearing before the Senate, Community Affairs Legislation Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o "That's the balance of evidence, but I think there's only one group that's regularly pushing this 95% figure." | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Which group was Adjunct Professor John Skerritt referring to? • On 27 October 2020, Adjunct Professor John Skerritt made the following statement at a Senate Estimates hearing before the Senate, Community Affairs Legislation Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o "When I talk to public health and regulatory colleagues in places like Canada and the US they are somewhat envious about our approach, given the significant increase in youth vaping." o To which colleagues was Adjunct Professor John Skerritt referring to? • On 27 October 2020, Professor Brendan Murphy made the following statement at a Senate Estimates hearing before the Senate, Community Affairs Legislation Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o "The harm that is being done in Canada, New Zealand, the UK is very concerning. They are very worried about the huge uptake of vaping in non-smoking young people." o Who was Professor Brendan Murphy referring to? • On 27 October 2020, Professor Brendan Murphy made the following statement at a Senate Estimates hearing before the Senate, Community Affairs Legislation Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o "We've seen in the US some deaths associated with vaping." o The US Centers for Disease Control has stated: "National and state data from patient reports and product sample testing show tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)-containing e-cigarette, or vaping, products, particularly from informal sources like friends, family, or in-person or online dealers, are linked to most EVALI cases and play a major role in the outbreak." o Does Professor Brendan Murphy wish to revise his statement to make it clear that the main source of risk in these cases was illegal THC vapes? | |
| SQ20-000355 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | MRFF Meetings with the Minister | <p>Senator McCARTHY: Thanks, Ms Edwards. Minister, can I go to you. I asked the department to take the questions on notice in relation to those meetings with government relations advisers et cetera. Could you also please take that—</p> <p>Senator Cash: Yes, absolutely. I can take it on behalf—</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Thank you.</p> | Page 23, 26 October |
| SQ20-000356 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Siewert, Rachel | Rapid Applied Research initiative | <p>Ms Somi: Rapid Applied Research Translation initiative.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That's done?</p> <p>Ms Somi: It's in train, and we've just finalised—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: In train?</p> <p>Ms Somi: That's right.</p> | Page 24, 26 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator SIEWERT: When is that scheduled to be completed? Ms Somi: By the end of 2020. Senator SIEWERT: Will it be publicly released? Ms Somi: We will look to provide some insights from that report. Senator SIEWERT: That's a difference to it will be released. That means the government gets to control what the insights are. Why not release the whole thing? Ms Somi: I will have to take that on notice and look at that.</p> | |
| SQ20-000357 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | McKenzie, Bridget | COVID-19 transmission via firearms and ammunition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the representative of the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) to the National Cabinet, did you provide advice to National Cabinet to implement bans on firearm and ammunition sales as part of the coronavirus response? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o (If yes) Can you please detail the advice you provided and explain why you provided this advice? o (continued) What scientific evidence was the advice based on? o (continued) Was there any data from the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission, or similar organisation, used in forming your advice? o (If no) On 31 March, Victoria's Police Minister Lisa Neville announced "a decision of National Cabinet to put a temporary ban" on access to firearms at a press conference. An email obtained by the Brisbane Times from Victoria Police's licencing and regulation branch wrote to firearms detailers in the state on 31 March stating that "Following a decision by National Cabinet, the Licensing and Regulation Division has been advised there will be a suspension of all firearm transactions including the sale, hire and loan of firearms and ammunition for the reasons of Sport or Target Shooting, Clay Target Shooting and Recreational Hunting". And, in mid-April a staffer in Queensland Police Minister Mark Ryan's office referred to "discussions in National Cabinet" prompting Chief Health Officers "around Australia" to implement bans on firearm and ammunition sales. If you did not provide advice to National Cabinet to implement a ban on the sales of firearms and ammunition, how did this advice come to National Cabinet? <p>So, why have these claims around National Cabinet decisions to implement the bans been made? Did you have any influence on the discussions or decisions by National Cabinet relating to the ban on firearm and ammunition sales?</p> <p>If this was not a National Cabinet decision, has anything been done to hold these State Labor Governments accountable for misrepresenting decisions of National Cabinet?</p> | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there other decisions relating to the matter of these bans being implemented that have not been announced by National Cabinet? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o (If yes) What are the decisions? o (continued) Was the impact of implementing these bans on lawfully abiding businesses considered in the decision-making process? o Were the impacts of this decision on law-abiding gun owners, who either rely on firearms for their livelihoods or participate in shooting for recreation, considered by National Cabinet in making this decision? • Are firearms and ammunition fomites for coronavirus? <p>(*fomite = any inanimate object that, when exposed with or exposed to infectious agents, can transfer disease to a new host)</p> • Is there a heightened risk of coronavirus transmission and infection among people if they undertake recreational shooting, shooting sports or hunting? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o (If yes) Does this risk outweigh the health benefits gained by actively participating in these activities? o (If no) Was this risk great enough to warrant the decision to ban firearm and ammunition sales, which caused businesses to have to close? • Were there any local coronavirus-related issues or unique circumstances that precipitated the Labor Government-controlled states that implemented these bans and shut down firearm and ammunition retailers to do so | |
| SQ20-000358 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McKenzie, Bridget | Department of Health staff | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the number of public servants working from home for each month from the Department? • How has the Department measured increased, static or declining productivity and what are the conclusions from that measure? • What is the number of sick days from the Department with a work-from-home workforce for each month of the lockdown and the corresponding sick days for the corresponding months in 2019? | Written |
| SQ20-000359 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Keneally, Kristina | Meetings between PM & Health Minister - Hydroxychloroquine | <p>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you, Chair. I appreciate that. Minister, are you aware if the Prime Minister or the Minister for Health have spoken to the member for Hughes about his comments in relation to hydroxychloroquine?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I'm not specifically aware of private conversations of the PM or the minister with respect to this particular matter. But it's clear that publicly there's a very wide difference of opinion</p> | Page 18-19, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>between what the Prime Minister and health minister are saying and what the member for Hughes is saying. The government's clear position is that we are following the health advice of Professor Kelly as CMO and the health officials that support him and the government in our management of COVID-19, and that's the appropriate thing we should do...</p> <p>...Senator KENEALLY: Thank you. Going back to your point about you not knowing about the conversations that may have occurred between the Prime Minister and the health minister and the member for Hughes, would you be willing to take that on notice?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: They're private conversations, Senator. I'm not sure that that will achieve anything further.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Surely you can just take it on notice. I can't direct the minister how to answer, but you can take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I'm happy to take it on notice, but they are private conversations between the minister, the Prime Minister and a colleague—</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: We do have a member of this parliament who's spreading dangerous information that's contrary to the health advice in the middle of a global pandemic. It would be interesting to know if the health minister has spoken to him.</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: The clear position of the government is that we don't support that position.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: I'll ask you again. Can you take my question on notice?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I'll take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Thank you.</p> | |
| SQ20-000360 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Siewert, Rachel | Medical Research Costing | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Who's undertaken those two?</p> <p>Ms Somi: Rapid Applied Research Translation—we've engaged Allen and Clarke to provide the support. However, we've engaged a panel of international experts who have been providing guidance on the process for that evaluation to try and ensure that we're able to learn from similar evaluation activities in other countries—for example, in the UK and in New Zealand.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: What's the cost of that?</p> <p>Ms Somi: I don't have those figures with me.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Would you take that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Somi: I will.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: And the second one—the Medical Research Commercialisation?</p> | Page 24-25, 26 October |

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| | | | | <p>Ms Somi: Again, we went through a competitive process and Allen and Clarke was the successful contractor for that process. That kind of process was more of a consultative process to try and understand changes in the landscape in medical research commercialisation. Again, I don't have a cost for that with me. I can take that on notice if that would be helpful.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That would be fantastic. Thank you.</p> | |
| SQ20-000361 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McLachlan, Andrew | Zero Childhood Cancer Program | <p>Senator McLACHLAN: Yes, there was Zero Childhood Cancer, which is in the 10 per cent targeted, which I think you'll understand is in the non-competitive allocation. I'm interested in why it's in the non-competitive 10 per cent and also what the targeted grant is designed to achieve.</p> <p>Ms Somi: The rationale of putting it in a particular category goes to the definition of how that grant recipient was selected. They were selected through a targeted approach, so that's the reason it's in that particular category. In terms of the specifics, the Zero Childhood Cancer program is offering genomic screening of cancers for children. If you would like more detailed information about the actual program, I would have to take that on notice. I can talk at a higher level about the grant, however.</p> <p>Senator McLACHLAN: I would appreciate a higher brief, and then if you would take on notice the details for me.</p> <p>Ms Somi: Sure. Any more than the fact that they're offering genomic screening for cancers in children?</p> <p>Senator McLACHLAN: Is it on the basis that it's going to all children part of the rationale for putting it in the 10 per cent?</p> <p>Ms Somi: The rationale for putting it into the 10 per cent is the method by which the recipient was selected for the funding. It's independent of the nature of the activity and the grant. But you're right, I think the latest grant for the Zero Childhood Cancer Program is to roll out genomic screening for cancers for all children over the next few years.</p> <p>Senator McLACHLAN: Thank you.</p> | Page 26, 26 October |
| SQ20-000363 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Polley, Helen | Public Dental Services for Adults | <p>The current National Partnership Agreement for Public Dental Services for Adults was supposed to cease on 30 June 2020? At the last round of estimates the department said that it would cease on that date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What advice was provided if any to the Minister for Health that brought about the decision to extend the program for a further 12 months? What would have been ramifications if the program | Written |

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| | | | | <p>had ceased? Would access to dental services to Australians have been affected in terms of access?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the Department's long term strategy to incentivise GP's to work in regional areas? • Is the MMM working? What could be done to improve the MMM? Has the Department looked at any alternatives to this model? • Was there any data provided to the Government that made them change their mind and continue the program? • What would have been the ramifications if the program had ceased? Would access to dental services to Australians have been affected in terms of access? • What is the Department's long term strategy to provide better access for dental services for Australians living in regional areas? Do you envisage that the program may be extended for a further 12 months post 2020-21? • What long term strategies is the department working on to ensure Australians are provided access to public dental care, regardless of where they may reside? • In relation to the program continuing for the foreseeable future past the forward estimates are there currently any discussions between officials from the Australian Government and states and territories on the National Partnership Agreement on Public Dental Services for Adults? • Can the Department provide an overview of any current programs underway to assist in the retention of staff within dental services across Australia? <p>o If not, why isn't this a consideration of the Department?</p> | |
| SQ20-000364 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Polley, Helen | Aged care funding allocation during COVID-19 | <p>The Australian Government will provide an additional \$563.3 million to extend support for the aged care sector's response to COVID-19, announced in March and subsequently as part of the Aged Care response plan.</p> <p>This takes our Government's support to senior Australians in Aged Care to over \$1.5 billion since the pandemic began.</p> <p>In the 2020-21 Budget \$1.6 Billion was announced to deliver 23,000 Home Care Packages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been an increase in demand for home care packages as a result of the outbreaks in residential aged care facilities. In response to this there was an additional \$71.4 million announced for the Commonwealth Home Support Programme. Has this precipitated in more homecare packages being made available to the more than 100 000 older Australians who are on the waiting list? If so how many? | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much of the \$92.4 million have you spent on the single site workforce initiative? Is there a mechanism which tracks how many employees work across multiple workplaces? • Has the \$250 million support payment provided to all residential aged care providers been tracked? Is there a mechanism in place to oversee how these facilities have improved their infection control capability? • In November 2019 the Government announced 10,000 additional aged care packages for the sector. It is my understanding that 6,565 had been delivered in total as of May. How many in total have now been delivered? • Inefficiencies with the My Aged Care system would not allow for a breakdown of those packages on a state and territory basis in March. Have those issues been addressed? Can the Department detail the state and territory breakdown of those delivered packages now? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o If not, why not? • Is the Department currently analysing the gaps in care on a state and territory basis to determine where capacity must increase to ensure senior Australians receive the care they require? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o If not, why not? | |
| SQ20-000365 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Polley, Helen | Supplements to people receiving dementia care | <p>The Government increased the supplement paid to people receiving home care who are living with moderate to severe dementia. The supplement was increased from 10 per cent of the level of the home care package to 11.5 per cent. The dementia and cognition and Veterans supplement are currently paid to around 12,700 home care recipients with both a diagnosis of dementia and moderate to severe levels of cognitive impairment. This will cost \$35.7 million from 2018–19 to 2022–23.</p> <p>There was no mention of this supplement on the Budget 2020-21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To date, how much has been spent on this supplement? • There is no mention of this supplement in the 2020-21 budget, why? What is the projected spend in the next two financial years? • Can the department provide an estimation for how many people are receiving the Dementia and Cognition Supplement for 2020-21? • What is done for unsuccessful applicants? | Written |
| SQ20-000369 | 2 - Health Access and | Polley, Helen | Effects of Rural Other Medical Practitioners | <p>At Additional Estimates in March I asked some questions regarding the Rural Other Medical Practitioners Program (ROMPs) and whether the ceasing of that program has led to practices</p> | Written |

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| | Support Services | | Program (ROMPS) ceasing | <p>closing. The Department has since said that they have not received any correspondence detailing that they have closed for that reason. Accordingly there is no requirement for a medical practice to notify the Department or Services Australia of their closure or the reasons for their closure. Why not? Surely this isn't wise, if the Department is trying to improve access to health services in rural and regional areas surely collecting this data would be in the interests of the Commonwealth and addressing this issue?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the Department believe that collecting this data would be too burdensome on the sector? • Has the Department considered trying to collect this data so it can plan for the future and possibly amend programs to better incentivise GP's operating in regional and remote Australia rather than ceasing the programs? • At the March hearings I asked several questions about bulk billing services and did not receive an answer. Can the department please provide the following information? • Has the Government made changes to rural bulk billing incentives? • Can a detailed financial breakdown of the measure; and a detailed list of areas that have lost access to rural bulk billing incentives under the change to the Modified Monash Model be provided? • How many areas have lost access to the higher rural bulk billing incentives? Why did the Government initially claim that only 14 areas were affected? • How many doctors currently participate in the 3GA program, like the More Doctors for Rural Australia Program? • Is there a need for further recruitment of doctors in regional and remote areas? If so, can the department inform the committee which areas across Australia are in need fo more GP's • Is the Department actively looking to expand the program? Is this program benchmarked? • Is the Department confident of the current programs efficacy? Does regional Australia have access to quality GP's? • People in my home state of Tasmaia often reach out to myself and my office because they do not have access to a GP in their local area. In particular, this has worsened over the last two to three years. Can the department provide a breakdown of the amount of doctors per head of population currently working in Tasmania? • Can the Department specifically provide details of the amount of doctors currently practicing in | |
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| | | | | <p>North East Tasmania?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15.6 per cent more Australians will be diagnosed with a chronic illness, including cancer, in the next ten years. Furthermore, there is set to be a 22 per-cent increase in the number of mental illness cases in rural areas in that period, while the impact on the health system from neurological conditions, including Alzheimer's diseases, will increase by almost 50 per cent. How will these regions cope with demand if access to GP's continues to decline? What steps are being taken by the Department to prepare for this onslaught in chronic illnesses? How will the system cope with this increasing demand? • Chronic illness is on the rise, GP's working in regional Australia is set to decline by half in the next decade. What is the Department doing to address this shortfall in GP's? Could young people from country areas be encouraged to choose a career in health? | |
| 371 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Polley, Helen | National Strategic Action Plan for Rare Disease priorities and commitments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government has recently committed to provide up to \$3.3 million for activities to implement the first National Strategic Action Plan for Rare Diseases, announced in February 2020. The Action Plan outlines key priorities to improve prevention, early detection and screening, accurate and fast diagnosis, and equitable access to medicines. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Do we also have a commitment from this government to significantly improve the time it takes to reimburse new innovative treatment for rare disease where there is a high unmet clinical need and in many cases no alternative treatment option? o Does this government commit to the continuation of the Life Saving Disease Program (LSDP) in its current form? Or has this government considered transitioning the LSDP from a standalone programme to a formalised special programme under section 100 of the National Health Act 1953, mirroring other section 100 programmes such as the Highly Specialised Drugs Programme, to benefit from existing structures, processes and systems currently within the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme? o Has the 2020/21 budget seen an increase in funds allocated to the Life Saving Disease Program (LSDP)? o Is there a government commitment to list all new life saving medicines that meet the LSDP Inclusion criteria and have been recommended by the PBAC? Or to limit the program to Enzyme Replacement Therapy (ERT)? o What has been the outcome of the LSDP reviews, conducted throughout 2019 and 2020, | Written |

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| | | | | commissioned as a result of the recommendations of the Independent Review of the LSDP presented in July 2018? | |
| SQ20-000372 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Keneally, Kristina | Minister contact with ASMR | <p>Senator KENEALLY: That's fine. That wasn't actually my question. Senator Cash, could you perhaps take on notice whether the minister or his office had any contact with ASMR regarding the 30 July release?</p> <p>Senator Cash: Yes, more than happy to. I will take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: And if they requested any changes in the subsequent release on 18 August.</p> <p>Senator Cash: Yes, that's fine.</p> | Page 27, 26 October |
| SQ20-000373 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Chandler, Claire | Guidelines for the inclusion of Transgender Diverse People in Sport | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In March this year I asked Sport Australia in a written question on notice "Which organisation first initiated the development of these Guidelines [for the inclusion of transgender and gender diverse people in Sport]". Sport Australia's answer stated: "Sport Australia initiated the development of the Guidelines for the Inclusion of Transgender and Gender Diverse People in Sport in response to requests by sporting organisations...". In the Budget Estimates hearing of 27 October 2020, I asked the Acting CEO specifically which sporting organisations requested the development of the Guidelines. The Acting CEO responded "If I can correct you, what I did say and what I have written to you subsequent is that the Guidelines were in fact initiated by the Human Rights Commission..." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Which of these contradictory statements about the initiation of the Guidelines is correct? o Please provide the names of any and all organisations which requested the development of the Guidelines. • Upon initiation of the development of the Guidelines, did Sport Australia request that the AHRC undertake detailed scientific and medical analysis of the impact on safety and fairness in women's sport and incorporate the findings into the guidelines? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o If not, why not? o If so, please provide details about the request made to the AHRC including any advice that Sport Australia staff provided about safety and fairness in women's sport • When does Sport Australia intend to commence work assessing scientifically the safety and fairness impacts of allowing biological males to play in women's sports? • I refer to statements at Estimates by the Sex Discrimination Commissioner and AIS Chief Medical Officer that the Guidelines were "never intended" to look at scientific and medical evidence relating to trans inclusion in women's sport. On what basis did Sport Australia determine that it was | Written |

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| | | | | <p>unnecessary to consider these factors when initiating the Guidelines?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What input did Sport Australia have into the AHRCs decision not to publicise consultation on the Guidelines and accept submissions from all athletes and interested groups? • Has Sport Australia seen the list of organisations and people who were consulted on these Guidelines? • Does Sport Australia agree that biological males should not play in women's sporting competition if there is any potential that this presents increased injury risk or disadvantages female competitors? • Does Sport Australia agree that biological males competing against females in contact sports such as Rugby Union and Australian Rules Football has the potential to increase injury risk to female players? <p>o If so, why doesn't Sport Australia specifically recommend against biological males competing in women's rugby or Australian Rules football?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On what date did Rugby Australia first provide the draft World Rugby Transgender Guideline to Sport Australia? o Did Sport Australia request Rugby Australia provide the guideline to ensure that the Transgender Guideline issued by Sport Australia and the AHRC had not omitted relevant safety and fairness considerations on women's sport? o Have Sport Australia staff or Board Members ever discussed strategy or tactics relating to responding to the World Rugby Transgender Guideline, including media strategy, with Rugby Australia or Pride in Sport? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would Sport Australia review and re-draft the Guidelines for the inclusion of transgender and gender diverse people in sport if they were found to be legally inaccurate or misleading? • Does Sport Australia agree that strength, stamina and physique are relevant to the following competitive sports? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Rugby Union o Australian Rules Football o Cricket o Hockey o Netball | |
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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Tennis o Touch football o Water Polo o Athletics o Football o Golf o Gymnastics o Softball o Squash o Swimming o Surf Lifesaving o Triathlon o Basketball o Olympic competition, including qualifying events. • If Sport Australia agrees that strength, stamina and physique are relevant to all of the above sports, why did Sport Australia not state explicitly in the Guidelines that these sports are not required by the Sex Discrimination Act 1984 to allow biologically male competitors into women's competition? • What steps did Sport Australia take to verify the legal accuracy of the Guidelines before publication? • What steps did Sport Australia take to review the accuracy of the Guidelines in response to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Federal Court judgements post-July 2019 regarding the application of the Competitive Sports Exemption to single-sex sports? o The updated World Rugby Transgender Guideline and the scientific analysis incorporated within it? | |
| SQ20-000376 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Siewert, Rachel | Community Health and Hospitals Program funding for alcohol and other drugs | <p>Senator SIEWERT: I have some questions in the area around drug and alcohol services. First off, funding was committed for infrastructure and services for drug and alcohol programs or services. There are a number of them. You probably can't tell me now, but can you take on notice to provide me with an update on where they're up to and whether some of those have been retimed?</p> <p>Ms Field: Absolutely.</p> | Page 30-31, 26 October |

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| | | | | Ms Edwards: Just for the clarity of other senators, we were talking about the Community Health and Hospitals Program funding that was allocated to alcohol and other drugs as opposed to all our other funding to alcohol and other drugs. | |
| SQ20-000381 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Chandler, Claire | Defining women in sport | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Estimates in March this year, I asked Sport Australia in writing how it defines the term 'woman'. Your answer was 'Sport Australia has not defined the term woman'. In a media statement from June this year about the women's World Cup in Australia – a very exciting announcement - you said "Sport Australia's AusPlay research tells us there are more than 1.1million participants in club football in Australia, the biggest team sport in the country and one of the largest for girls and women,". How did you calculate this without defining what a woman is? • Sport Australia operates a Women Leaders in Sport program. How does Sport Australia determine eligibility for participation in this program without defining who is a 'woman'? | Written |
| SQ20-000382 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Medicinal Cannabis - Australians prescribed | <p>Senator SIEWERT: I wanted to go to the issue of medicinal cannabis. How many Australians have been legally prescribed a medicinal cannabis product since 2016?...</p> <p>.... Senator SIEWERT: Can you give me an indication of how many just for September this year.</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: I don't know if I have the September figure right here. It was over 6,000; I remember seeing that. But whether it was in the early sixes or high sixes I'm not sure. That's special access scheme B. There will be others on top of that. If you add everything together it could well be 6,500.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Maybe you could take that on notice.</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: Yes. I am happy to give you the month-by-month figures. We do publish them at the end of every month. It may well be that we've already put up the September figure on our website. I'd have to check.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: How many Australians possess a current and valid prescription for at least one medical cannabis product?</p> | Page 23, 27 October |
| SQ20-000383 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Siewert, Rachel | Alcohol and Other Drugs Funding | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Do they cover rural and regional as well?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: My understanding is they do. Of course, it's a national program focused on engagement in the primary care setting, wherever that happens to be. Four hundred thousand dollars is going to SMART Recovery to support the adaptation of their services to an online delivery model. Matilda Centre, Cracks in the Ice and Positive Choices are receiving \$600,000, and that's to support the enhancement of their portals to take into account COVID-19. So, once again, that's online delivery. And \$2 million is going to the Alcohol and Drug Foundation to deliver an</p> | Page 31, 26 October |

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| | | | | <p>information and awareness campaign—that's the Break the Habit campaign—to make Australians aware of the support that's available and other resources specific to COVID-19. So all of those measures are really trying to do a national reach.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Some of those will obviously be available to regional and remote areas. Are there specific services that have been funded in regional and remote areas? I'm not meaning to have a go at these services, but there's also specific expertise in many cases needed for rural and regional.</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: For the detail of that, I'd need to take that question on notice. But, as you can see, all of those are really focused on online content and accessibility. That's in addition to the \$800 million that the government invests in alcohol and other drugs programs as well.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: In terms of the decision-making, how were these services selected? How were they picked for funding?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: My understanding is, particularly in the context of COVID where we were trying to respond really quickly, we were looking at programs that had an existing footprint, an existing brand and profile and outcomes and we were looking at supplementing them to increase their reach and do the online activities.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Basically they didn't apply; you didn't do an open call or even a targeted call. You approached them.</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: My understanding is we went to existing programs, but I'll get that clarified if that's not the case.</p> | |
| SQ20-000384 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Chandler, Claire | Pride in sport | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What discussions did Sport Australia staff or Board members have with the lobby group 'Pride in Sport' about the development of the guidelines, both prior to and during development? • In a media release on your website dated 6 March 2017, the Australian Sports Commission announced the establishment of the Pride in Sport Index and said it was "an initiative of the Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Human Rights Commission". If the index and the associated Awards are an initiative of those two taxpayer funded agencies, why is 'Pride in Sport' selling access to a 'debrief pack on Pride in Sport Index results' and 'copies of Pride in Sport benchmarking results' for the cost of a \$10,000 corporate memberships? • Is Sport Australia aware that a sporting organisation's agreement with Pride in Sport's trans inclusion policies affects the rating awarded to that organisation in the Pride in Sport Index – an | Written |

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| | | | | <p>initiative of your organisation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has Sport Australia ever provided any other financial or in-kind benefits to Pride in Sport? • In the last Estimates session I asked about Sport Australia's policy in relation to the use of change rooms by participants who are of one sex but identify as a different gender. You advised, in writing, that "Sport Australia does not have a policy in respect to the use of change rooms by participants who are of one sex but identify as a different gender". If that is the case, why has Sport Australia published a document, branded with your logo, which suggests that an innovative solution for a sporting organisation with a non-binary player is to take the men's and women's signs off the bathrooms and make them both unisex? • Do you agree that sporting organisations and clubs should have full discretion to limit competitive women's sport in Australia to biological women? • Has Sport Australia ever paid for any training or seminars for staff in relation to gender identity issues? If so, which organisation delivered the training? • Does Sport Australia receive any income from the operation of the Pride in Sport Index, described as an initiative of the Australian Human Rights Commission and the Australian Sports Commission? • Given Sport Australia's previous statements that it does not define the term 'woman', how does Sport Australia ensure that taxpayer money provided to Australian sports for the purposes of women's participation is not spent on male participation in sport? | |
| SQ20-000385 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Medicinal cannabis legally prescribed by doctors in Australia | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Are you able to tell me how many doctors have legally prescribed medicinal cannabis since 2016?</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: I might have to take that one on notice. We do have the figure somewhere. I believe the figure is well over a thousand. We will take the number of individual doctors on notice. I think it's between 1,000 and 2,000, but we'll give you the exact figure.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: While you're taking that on notice, could you provide a breakdown of the numbers for each year since 2016.</p> <p>Dr Skerritt: Certainly.</p> | Page 23, 27 October |

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| SQ20-000386 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Mental Health First Aid Funding for Medical Students | <p>Senator SIEWERT: I'll make it quick, because I know we have all got lots more questions in this outcome. I want to ask about the mental health first aid training for the Medical Students Association. Are there any plans to increase the funding so that more students can participate?</p> <p>Mr Roddam: Sorry, I thought where you were going was somewhere different.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Sorry!</p> <p>Mr Roddam: We might need to take that one on notice. I don't have that information with me....</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I want to go back to the issue of the mental health first aid training for the Medical Students' Association. You said you would take it on notice. Can you provide me with any information you can? I understand that there's an issue about access to funding or the need for additional funding and some ongoing training?</p> <p>Mr Roddam: Sure. We'll take that on notice.</p> | Page 62, 26 October |
| SQ20-000387 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Rural and regional mental health table | <p>Senator SIEWERT: That would be appreciated. Thank you. I've put some questions on notice around the eating disorder MBS number—just a heads up. I did want to ask for an update on the rural and regional mental health inquiry recommendations. Instead of going through each of them now, due to time, can I ask the department to maybe do a little bit of an update table?</p> <p>Mr Roddam: We can do that.</p> | Page 62, 26 October |
| SQ20-000388 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Polley, Helen | Replenishing the National Medical Stockpile | <p>Senator POLLEY: How much has the government spent on replenishing the National Medical Stockpile since COVID-19 emerged?</p> <p>Dr Murphy: I'll get Ms Edwards to answer that.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: When you say 'replenish' and how much has the government committed, we have greatly expanded the National Medical Stockpile. I think the budget has been \$3.3 billion across two financial years.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Can you take that on notice—I understand there are some sensitivities and commercial in confidence issues—to give us a breakdown of that spending.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: We can definitely provide you something on notice. We have provided in camera considerable detail in the COVID committee about what's in the National Medical Stockpile, but we can certainly provide you in answer to this committee a general overview of the spending and how it has gone.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: If you could take it on notice, it would be greatly appreciated. Talking about masks—surgical and respirators—how many were in stock as of January?</p> | Page 28, 27 October |

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| | | | | Ms Edwards: I'm not sure if I've got that number in my—we have provided it on notice in the COVID committee, some of it in camera and some of it not, but it's fair to say there was a much smaller number than we have now, which of course is in the vicinity of— | |
| SQ20-000389 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Siewert, Rachel | Extra commitment to alcohol and drug services during COVID | <p>Ms Rishniw: Certainly the delivery of online platforms is geared to trying to address need more holistically and to allow access more broadly.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Okay. I take your point about online services. We know we actually need a whole lot more treatment services, and, by and large, a lot of those cannot be or are not effective when provided online. So what are we doing about the infrastructure that's needed for better drug and alcohol treatment?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: That also goes to the broader \$800 million investment through the alcohol and drug program across the country and working with states and territories around their treatment services as well.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Have you done an assessment of the state and territory extra commitment to services during COVID?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: Not to my knowledge, but I'll take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you could see how they're complementing each other—</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: Indeed. And we're working through PHNs as well, in terms of the commissioning of services. PHNs are specifically focused on ensuring that they do a needs analysis and work with states and territories and the service footprint on ground.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Have the PHNs undertaken or provided feedback on that needs analysis?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: They do a needs analysis annually. In terms of COVID, we've been working directly with all 31 PHNs, but particularly the ones in Victoria around lockdown. So they do a general needs analysis—absolutely— and we work with them regularly.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I was thinking specifically during the current pandemic—are they undertaking extra needs analysis of drug and alcohol services?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: I will take that on notice.</p> | Page 32, 26 October |
| SQ20-000390 | 1 - Health System Policy, | Siewert, Rachel | Hospital performance indicators | <p>Senator SIEWERT: In terms of the work on the indicators, how are you developing that?</p> <p>Mr Sandison: We normally work through advisory committees, jurisdictions and other agencies within the portfolio particularly, like the safety and quality commission.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: What are the new indicators that you're looking at that are different to what's</p> | Page 35, 26 October |

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| | Design and Innovation | | | <p>been done in the past?</p> <p>Mr Sandison: I don't have the detail, but we can take that on notice and give you a list of what's been worked on, what the current indicators are and what the immediate ones are that are being worked on now.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you could take that on notice, that would be great. Are you doing it based on all data on hospital performance efficiency and comparisons of hospitals?</p> | |
| SQ20-000391 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Siewert, Rachel | Hospital indicator consistency | <p>Senator SIEWERT: How is progress on getting that consistency going? Is there agreement that that's what they're going to do now?</p> <p>Dr Webster: Yes. I've probably got the detail here somewhere, but of the 45 there are only one or two indicators that we don't have final specification agreement on.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: What are those? Are you able to tell me now or do you need to take it on notice?</p> <p>Dr Webster: I probably need to take that on notice—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Okay. Hopefully you have the list that is already done, but, if you could provide on notice the ones that are still being worked on, that would be appreciated.</p> <p>Dr Webster: I should note that the data is being reported for those ones, so that's not delaying reporting the data. We're working through the committee processes independently of that.</p> | Page 36, 26 October |
| SQ20-000392 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Griff, Stirling | Change in scope and review - Natural Therapies Review | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re Tranche One of the Natural Therapies Review – Prof Kelso said the review was delayed due to a change in scope. Can you please elaborate on what has changed: what had been initially planned and what is now in the current scope? • What is included in a comprehensive evidence review and what are the parameters for the evidence that will be accepted (for instance, does it extend to case study evidence)? • When was the change in scope decided and why? Who made the decision to widen the scope to a comprehensive evidence review? • How was the change in scope communicated to stakeholders/submitters and when? Were they contacted regarding the change in scope and given the opportunity to provide further submissions? • Prof Kelso said she expected the entire review to be completed by the end of 2021. Please detail the timeline for each stage of the review (eg timeline for tranche 1 to be finalised and timeline for tranche 2 process) and expected date for the review to be finalised. • Is it likely that the report will be delivered - and made public - prior to Private Health Insurers making their submissions for the 2021 Premium Round in November 2021? | Written |

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| SQ20-000393 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Griff, Stirling | Rheumatic Fever Strategy funding and report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much has been spent by the Commonwealth on the Rheumatic Fever Strategy to date? Can you advise what state and territory governments have also contributed? • What proportion of partnership funding has been targeted at root causes including poverty and overcrowding? • The last funding announcement appears to be the remainder of the \$18.8m allocated over four years (about \$7m) to 2020-21. Why was there no additional funding in this Budget given rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease is a serious public health issue? • Last month, the End Rheumatic Heart Disease Centre of Research Excellence (backed by NHMRC) released a report on eliminating rheumatic heart disease by the end of the coming decade. The report calculated that it would cost \$689 million to implement the strategy. What are the next steps for considering this report and its possible implementation? • The Department of health is quoted in an ABC story on the Endgame Strategy saying it would cost \$31 million over the first three years – is that correct? Is that just the Federal Government's proportion of funding? • Will funding the plan be done in partnership with the states? Does the federal Government anticipate that the plan will be fully funded and delivered as outlined in the Endgame strategy? • Rheumatic heart disease is notifiable in Western Australia and South Australia, and it is notifiable in NSW in people under 35. Is there a reason it is not notifiable Australia wide? | Written |
| SQ20-000394 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Griff, Stirling | Airborne spread of COVID-19 by jet dryers | <p>Re Answer to 2019-20 Additional Estimates SQ20-000028; SQ20-000087; SQ20-000088:</p> <p>In answers on notice the department acknowledged research showing "jet dryers have been shown to cause greater aerosolisation than other methods such as warm air dryers and paper towels". But the answer says if hand towels aren't available, people should use whatever other means of hand drying is available – and that may include jet dryers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the department sought any advice – aside from the research cited in the answers on notice - on whether the "greater aerosolization" by jet dryers poses a disease transmission risk, and whether it is wise to continue use of jet dryers in a COVID world? Does the department have any concerns about the continued use of jet hand dryers with regards to COVID-19 transmission? • Given the risk of airborne spread, should the public be advised to avoid jet dryers where possible, and to use paper towel where possible instead of warm air dryers? • How feasible would it be to ensure use of jet dryers are discontinued in shopping centres, airports | Written |

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| | | | | <p>etc, or that standards are changed to mitigate the risk – ie reduce "jet" strength</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are you aware whether your view on jet dryers is shared by state health departments and chief health officers? | |
| SQ20-000395 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Waters, Larissa | Government briefings on Sexual Assault in Australia report | <p>Senator WATERS: Thanks for being here, folks. Most of my questions will be for you, Mr Sandison. Firstly, thanks for the work that the institute does, particularly on issues around sexual assault. I want to ask you some questions about your recent report, Sexual assault in Australia, which was released in August this year. There are a number of extremely distressing findings. I'm interested to know what work has been done to address those findings. First up, have you provided any briefings to government agencies on that report?</p> <p>Mr Sandison: I'd have to take that on notice. We interact with the agencies, both state and federal, whenever we're doing those sorts of reports. So, depending on the data sources, we do collaborate with DSS in relation to some of the work, but also it's primarily with the states and territories.</p> | Page 36, 26 October |
| SQ20-000396 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Siewert, Rachel | Medical Benefits Scheme and eating disorders | <p>Ms Rishniw: Senator, in terms of eating disorders and MBS items, perhaps I can quickly give you the numbers?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes, okay.</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: As you well know, the MBS item was introduced on 1 November 2019. As at 10 October a total of 110,849 services have been claimed with more than \$13.1 million in expenditure.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Do we have an idea of how many people?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: We will get that on notice for you. What I can say is we've seen a steady increase in the use of those MBS items, so it's encouraging.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Now we've gone—sorry, I can't help myself!—to the fact that the item numbers were made available to a wider number of service providers and therapists, do you have a breakdown of that and how successful or otherwise it's been?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: That I will have to take on notice, I think.</p> <p>Mr Roddam: I can give you the number of services by each service provider type, if you like.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That would be great.</p> | Page 63, 26 October |
| SQ20-000397 | 1 - Health System Policy, | Waters, Larissa | Research into sexual assault via dating apps | <p>Senator WATERS: In your research, are you aware of any actions being undertaken in any jurisdiction, state or federal, to address this proliferation of assaults through online dating apps?</p> <p>Mr Sandison: I'd have to take that on notice. I should say that this is one of the 180 reports a year that we cover. So my awareness level goes to a certain degree, but not down into the detail.</p> | Page 37, 26 October |

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| | Design and Innovation | | | <p>Senator WATERS: And there's no-one else here that could address that?</p> <p>Mr Sandison: That would be my entire executive team to try and cover every report. So we knew hospitals was on the list, but, I'm sorry, I don't have the team leader here.</p> | |
| SQ20-000398 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Mental health first aid training funding and expansion of services | <p>Senator Cash: Senator Siewert, I also have some information for you. You were right in relation to the provision of funding for mental health first aid training for medical students. The amount is \$690,000.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: When was that funding provided?</p> <p>Senator Cash: The press release I'm looking at is from 27 May 2020. The announcement made was that we: ... will provide \$690,000 to the Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand to support mental health first aid training for all medical students.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Would you be able to take on notice to provide a little bit more detail around what that will provide?</p> <p>Senator Cash: What it will look like?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes.</p> <p>Senator Cash: Yes.</p> <p>Mr Roddam: We can do that. The reason I didn't recall that was that that funding is from another division. So we will take it away and work out who is best placed to answer.</p> | Page 63, 26 October |
| SQ20-000399 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Waters, Larissa | National standards for sexual violence responses | <p>Senator WATERS: Okay. Can you talk to me a bit about the work that's being done to develop national standards for sexual violence responses for victim and perpetrator programs, including the development of a framework for reporting against the standards?</p> <p>Mr Sandison: I think the best thing, in terms of the framework, would be to take it on notice, and we can provide a range of information to you.</p> | Page 38, 26 October |
| SQ20-000400 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Waters, Larissa | ABS sexual assault data understanding | <p>Senator WATERS: Okay, thank you. Lastly, there's work being done to develop a better understanding of the ABS sexual assault data holdings, including gaps and barriers to collection. What is that work being done and what's is the time frame on that?</p> <p>Mr Sandison: Again, I'll take it on notice to make sure I've got the detail, but we work through a range of our reports, wherever there is ABS related data; we work with them to look at improvements in terms of the range of data but also the timeliness of the data so it can time with our reports. To get to the specifics, I'd have to take on notice what the team are working on.</p> | Page 38, 26 October |

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| SQ20-000401 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Polley, Helen | Lack of access to GPs in Tasmania | <p>Senator POLLEY: The issue my community is being confronted with is access to a GP at all. Even in the city of Launceston it is still very difficult to get into a practice. When you move out to the regional areas, it's not only having a lack of access to GP but the revolving doors of GPs that are going through the practices. Have you got any figures from the department's perspective that you can break down into regions in terms of the amount of GPs in Tasmania?</p> <p>Ms Shakespeare: I have some figures on Tasmania's yearly growth in GPs. Growth over the last five years has been 14.2 per cent, and that varies year by year. We'd have to take it on notice if you wanted numbers of FTE in Tasmania.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Yes, that would be beneficial.</p> | Page 65, 26 October |
| SQ20-000402 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Siewert, Rachel | Hospital performance indicators | <p>Senator SIEWERT: In terms of the time lines—you may not be able to tell me, so you may need to take the question on notice—can you tell me the time lines for each of those indicators?</p> <p>Ms Picone: I would appreciate the option to take that on notice. I can answer that question, but I want to be absolutely certain.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Fair enough. I would like to know the time lines and the processes that you use to do that work.</p> <p>Ms Picone: Yes. Briefly, the processes that we use are to engage with consumers and clinicians and then expert statisticians and epidemiologists. And we work very closely, of course, with our colleagues in AHW and all of the states and territories.</p> | Page 39, 26 October |
| SQ20-000403 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Polley, Helen | Strategies for building a rural allied health workforce | <p>Senator POLLEY: In terms of the types of programs and incentives for allied health professionals and GPs, could the department give us an update as to when those programs started and, perhaps, an ongoing assessment about where we're at in terms of numbers? That would be beneficial, if you could take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Shakespeare: Sure. One of our other key strategies for building a rural allied health workforce is through the Rural Health Multidisciplinary Training Program, which has just been expanded under a budget measure announced earlier this month. That will involve a new university department of rural health being funded which provides rural, long-term clinical training opportunities for allied health practitioners. This is a longstanding program approach which has been evaluated as building more rural workforce because people get the opportunity to practice in a rural area and are more likely to remain working in that area once they've finished their clinical training. There will also be additional funding under that budget measure for expanding training into more remote locations.</p> | Page 66, 26 October |

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| | | | | <p>Many of the university departments of rural health have well-established footprints in regional areas, and we're interested in what we can do to deliver that training in more remote areas as well.</p> <p>Dr Murphy: Allied health practitioners also have access to the telehealth items as well, and that has helped in some of those regional and rural areas.</p> <p>Ms Shakespeare: We're happy to provide more information on notice about all of these strategies.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: That would be great.</p> | |
| SQ20-000404 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Siewert, Rachel | Inappropriate use of chemical and physical restraint | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Are you looking at chemical and physical restraint or just chemical?</p> <p>Ms Picone: In the work with the other two agencies you have to look at the whole program. You can't just look at one side of it. It's when we're not managing people well that they may reach inappropriately for an antipsychotic as a sedation. So we're covering both areas.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: You said in the next six to 12 months you will finish this work?</p> <p>Ms Picone: I know. I was afraid, Senator, that you might remember that! So that's why I will take that on notice. That certainly was our plan.</p> | Page 40, 26 October |
| SQ20-000405 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Polley, Helen | Productivity Commission advice to the minister | <p>Ms Rishniw: The interim report from the Productivity Commission was released last year. In terms of the Productivity Commission providing that report to government, Productivity Commission reports generally go to the Treasurer in the first instance because the Productivity Commission sits under the Treasury portfolio. I understand that the report was provided a few months ago, but the release of that is a matter for government.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: That report has been shared with the department?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: We've seen drafts of that report, but I can't confirm that it's the final.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: It's not, as you understand it, the final report?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: I've seen what was a final draft from the Productivity Commission, but obviously I'm not aware of any other conversations that happened with the Productivity Commission.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Has the department provided advice to the minister regarding that? If so, when?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: The department always provides advice to the minister, obviously in terms of any reports that come through. In terms of when, I'd need to take that on notice, but obviously that's also advice to the minister, so I can't tell you much more about that. In terms of timing, I'll take that on notice.</p> | Page 43, 26 October |
| SQ20-000406 | 2 - Health Access and | Polley, Helen | Interim report from the Productivity | <p>Senator POLLEY: That would be appreciated. You might be able to come back to us after lunch on that. That would be good. Director of the Brain and Mind Centre, Professor Ian Hickie, said in early</p> | Page 43, 26 October |

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| | Support Services | | Commission - Minister's response | <p>September that it was 'essential' the government release the report 'because we need a large systematic and informed response in the October budget'. Why didn't that happen?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: That's a question for the minister and government, and the Treasurer in particular.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Minister?</p> <p>Senator Cash: The Productivity Commission report is normally one that is in the remit of the Treasurer's office. We'll refer the question to him or the office.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: But it has also gone to the Department of Health, who would have given advice to the minister.</p> <p>Senator Cash: I'll take on notice any response the minister might make.</p> | |
| SQ20-000407 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Polley, Helen | Release of the Productivity Commission interim report | <p>Senator POLLEY: In early September, the CEO of Suicide Prevention Australia called on the government to release the interim report before the budget and respond in the budget. She said: ... with forward-thinking systemic reform Australia needs to drive down our nation's suicide rates. Why didn't that happen, Minister?</p> <p>Senator Cash: Again, I think, as Ms Rishniw just indicated, this is a matter for the Prime Minister, and I will take it on notice for the Prime Minister.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: I understand a final report is due in December. Are you expecting that deadline to be met? Can you give us an indication of when it will be released publicly? More importantly, when will the government respond?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: Once again, that would be a matter for the Prime Minister and the National Suicide Prevention Adviser's advice. My understanding is that the National Suicide Prevention Adviser is anticipating to provide it by the end of the year.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Minister, would you like to hazard a guess as to when the government will respond to that report—</p> <p>Senator Cash: I wouldn't like to pre-empt the Prime Minister. We will refer it to the Prime Minister.</p> | Page 43, 26 October |
| SQ20-000408 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Polley, Helen | Adult mental health centres in marginal electorates | <p>Senator POLLEY: Thank you. I now want to go back to the budget of 2019, which included \$114.5 million for eight adult mental health centres. Five of the eight are in marginal electorates and none will be delivered until 2021. So that's up to two years after the election. Can you confirm the exact locations of the eight proposed adult mental health centres?</p> <p>Mr Roddam: I can, Senator. The eight locations are Adelaide, North Perth, Canberra, Geelong, Penrith, Townsville, Launceston and greater Darwin.</p> | Page 45, 26 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator POLLEY: How were these locations selected? Was there a tender process conducted?</p> <p>Mr Roddam: It was a budget announcement. I'll need to take any more detail on that on notice.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Were the states and the PHNs and stakeholders consulted about the locations?</p> <p>Mr Roddam: I'd need to take on notice the process back then, Senator.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Did the department provide advice to the government, and did they take that advice include options for government regarding the eight recommendations? Are the final locations consistent with any of that advice? I know you'll take that on notice but, if it is possible, it would be appreciated if we could come back to that after lunch with that information.</p> <p>Mr Roddam: I'll see what we can find, Senator, yes, but I would need to take it on notice.</p> | |
| SQ20-000409 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Headspace facilities and their growth | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Would you be able to provide a list of all the headspaces on notice?</p> <p>Senator Cash: That's a good question. My understanding is that this is possibly the largest single expansion on record—the announcement you're referring to.</p> <p>Mr Roddam: That's right.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Unfortunately they're all really needed too.</p> <p>Senator Cash: They are. Hence, why such an investment was made by the government.</p> <p>Mr Bedford: A full list of all the outstanding headspaces?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It would be good to get all of them, plus the new ones and when they're coming online, and whether they're—what do you call it?</p> <p>Mr Bedford: Satellites...</p> <p>CHAIR: In the preparation that we're getting you to put together with regard to all the headspaces, can we have a look at the growth over the last few years? How many did we have in 2013 through to how many will there be in 2022? Mr Roddam: We can collect them in terms of when they were announced, yes.</p> | Page 50, 26 October |
| SQ20-000410 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Polley, Helen | Overseas trained doctors in rural and regional areas | <p>Senator POLLEY: Is the department able to provide some figures for the last financial year on overseas trained doctors coming into rural and regional areas?</p> <p>Dr Murphy: We certainly could. Obviously there has been a reduction during COVID.</p> <p>Mrs Holden: I've got total numbers of overseas trained doctors entering the primary healthcare system over the recent years and I've got a percentage in terms of who has gone to MM 1 and who has gone to MM 2 to 07. I'll give you that and we can give you a more detailed breakdown on</p> | Page 66, 26 October |

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| | | | | notice. Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. | |
| SQ20-000411 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Numbers of people reaching out for mental health support during COVID | Senator McCARTHY: I want to ask about the figures you gave in relation to Victoria: you said they're going to plateau and not decrease. But then you gave the figures of all the other state jurisdictions about what happened when they came out of COVID. Did they plateau, or did they drop? Mr Roddam: I'd need to go back and check how long they stayed at their peak—I can't recall that but, as we sit here today, they're lower levels than they were in May. | Page 53, 26 October |
| SQ20-000412 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Margaret River Headspace Satellite | Senator SIEWERT: I know I'm going to run out of time. I just wanted to go to headspace for a minute. The Margaret River headspace I thought was also a satellite centre. Is that correct? So we've got Busselton as a satellite, and, if I'm correct, Margaret River is a satellite from Bunbury. Is that correct? Ms Rishniw: Busselton is a satellite, yes. Senator SIEWERT: Busselton is. What about the Margaret River site? Mr Roddam: Margaret River is a satellite. Senator SIEWERT: That's what I thought. Out of Bunbury? Mr Roddam: I believe so. I can confirm that. | Page 55, 26 October |
| SQ20-000413 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Headspace Evaluation | Senator SIEWERT: Yes. It's a fairly large area, though. Where's the evaluation at, for headspace? Mr Roddam: We have the evaluation underway. KPMG has been contracted to undertake the evaluation. We've established an evaluation reference group to advise on specific aspects of the evaluation to be completed by December 2021. Senator SIEWERT: You can tell me where to go to look for the reference group if I can find it without you having to go through it now. Mr Roddam: I can tell you the members at the moment. We actually don't actually have names. It might be better to take that on notice because I only have positions rather than names. Senator SIEWERT: Is there somewhere on a website? Mr Roddam: I think we would need to— Senator SIEWERT: I would prefer it sooner rather than later, knowing how long— Mr Roddam: It's a mixture of evaluation expertise, consumer experience and service delivery experience. So we do have the full range of experts we feel we need to guide that evaluation. Senator SIEWERT: Thanks for that. | Page 56, 26 October |

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| SQ20-000414 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Nurses access to training and support | <p>Senator SIEWERT: How do nurses access training and support?</p> <p>Ms Shakespeare: I'm sure that we could probably look to see if we've got any nursing training in this area as well. I've got information here about the GPs.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you could take on notice anything that's available for nurses or other medical specialists, specifically on alcohol and other drugs, that would be appreciated. Thank you. Chair, I've got a number of other questions on workforce, but I can put them on notice.</p> | Page 68, 26 October |
| SQ20-000415 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Clients exiting Commonwealth Transition arrangements | <p>Ms Rishniw: As at 31 August 2020, from the original total of 15,484 clients, there were 4,394 that had exited to the NDIS. There were 4,920 that had exited to the continuity of support program.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I will come back to that one.</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: There were 4,067 that had exited for other reasons.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Exited support program—any form of support, you mean?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: We don't know where they exited to necessarily.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Is anyone chasing that?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: I think my colleagues might be able to provide further detail.</p> <p>Mr Roddam: It may need to be on notice. I don't have the full detail.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take on notice to provide me with as much information as possible about where we know those people have gone and whether they're getting some form of support somewhere?</p> <p>Mr Roddam: Yes.</p> | Page 57, 26 October |
| SQ20-000416 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Polley, Helen | Government investment to stockpile | <p>Senator POLLEY: What was the investment by the current government to the stockpile since 2014?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I'll have to take it on notice, but I'm sure we have provided it already on notice in the other committee, so we should be able to come back with that quickly.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: The information that I have that might be helpful to you is that in the government's first budget in 2014 they had a total investment, before COVID, of about \$160 million over six budgets, so, on average, that was about \$27 million a year—</p> <p>Ms Edwards: That sounds about right.</p> | Page 30, 27 October |
| SQ20-000417 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Smith, Marielle | Pilot program for additional lung cancer nurses | <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: Are you aware of the Lung Foundation's 2020 budget bid for \$1.8 million for a pilot program for additional lung cancer nurses?</p> <p>Ms Garrett: Yes, we are aware of that bid.</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: Why was that bid rejected?</p> | Page 70, 26 October |

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| | | | | <p>Ms Rishniw: Sorry, any budget funding is a matter for government, so I don't have the details, but—</p> <p>Senator MARIELLE SMITH: Perhaps I can ask the minister.</p> <p>Senator Cash: I have no information for you on that. I could take it on notice, but, if it was done through the budget process, it may be difficult to get information. But I could take it on notice for you.</p> | |
| SQ20-000418 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Polley, Helen | Spending on health protection and emergency response | <p>Senator POLLEY: If I were to table a comparison of spending on program 5.2 over time taken from previous portfolio budget statements, the program was created in 2015-16 following the reorganisation of the department's spending on health protection and emergency response in that year, and that was \$208 million. By 2018-19 it had fallen to \$148 million, and before COVID-19 spending was expected to fall further to \$127 million in 2022-23, or a 39 per cent cut from 2015-16. Can you explain that to the committee?</p> <p>CHAIR: Senator Polley, you just said you were going to table that. Did you have that document there?</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: We'll get that, but I'm sure the department is aware of it.</p> <p>Dr Murphy: That's a very broad outcome. It covers lots of things, and I think we would have to take on notice an analysis of how much of the spending in that program was directly on emergency. That is the general outcome, but it has a lot of things in it, and we could provide an analysis of the spend in that outcome on notice and give feedback to you on how much was spent.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: We would make the point that we think we've had sufficient resources at all times to respond to the emergencies and health emergencies that have emerged. In relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, the government's committed \$16.5 billion. It's a matter of responding to what happens, and we're pretty comfortable that we've responded quickly and effectively to what was required at the time.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: So you're not accepting that there has been a decline in spending.</p> <p>Dr Murphy: We would need to analyse that program budget. It's a very, very large program and it covers a lot of activity, some of which would not be directly pandemic related. So we can come back to you on that. We shift stuff around programs from time to time in health protection, so we can do a full analysis for you and come back.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: I know that you were very good yesterday in coming back with some responses.</p> <p>Dr Murphy: I don't think we can do that today.</p> | Page 31, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>Ms Edwards: I don't think we can do that today.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: You wouldn't be able to do that today, but if we could have that—</p> <p>Ms Edwards: We'll take it as a question on notice.</p> | |
| SQ20-000419 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Review of Telehealth | <p>Senator McCARTHY: I want to check around the questions on telehealth in the context of the budget and the review. Telehealth items expire in March and the budget's in May. You said there twice that telehealth would be reviewed. Can I seek some clarification on what you were saying then?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: As I said, that would be a decision for government in terms of what the nature of the extension would be. The Senate asked me about the kind of timing. I was alluding that it would be in the context of the budget. In terms of specific timing, the government is very aware that those current telehealth measures end on 30 March.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Minister, have you—</p> <p>Senator Cash: I can take it on notice. But certainly, yes, it would be a decision for government but certainly longer term arrangements for telehealth services are obviously being considered.</p> | Page 57-58, 26 October |
| SQ20-000420 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Keneally, Kristina | Perinatal autopsies | <p>Senator KENEALLY: Are there any other mechanisms, or is that the main one?</p> <p>Dr Murphy: There are other mechanisms—national partnership agreements are a potential way of doing it. I'm not across the specifics of what happened, but I understand the recommendation and that perinatal autopsies generally have been an issue of concern across the country. We'd be happy to come back to you on notice with some advice on potential ways of supporting that now that the MSAC option has been excluded.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Great, thank you; I'd really appreciate that. Ms Shakespeare, before I leave this section, because I think Senator McCarthy has some other questions on stillbirth: why is it that MSAC didn't believe that MBS would be an appropriate mechanism to fund stillbirth autopsies?</p> <p>Ms Shakespeare: Again, I'll need to check the detail of the correspondence to and from MSAC, but I think there's a requirement that services funded under the Health Insurance Act are for clinically relevant services, which becomes difficult if the subject of the service is deceased.</p> | Page 72, 26 October |
| SQ20-000421 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Lyme support program | <p>Senator SIEWERT: You just touched on the question I was going to ask you about refunding the program. You've just said you hadn't received an application. Is that because they've been told not to put it in until they've acquitted the report—the final acquittal?</p> <p>Ms Street: I don't believe so, but I can take that on notice.</p> | Page 31, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take that on notice? Ms Street: Yes.</p> | |
| SQ20-000422 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Keneally, Kristina | Productivity Commission report from the Treasury | <p>Senator KENEALLY: So did the Productivity Commission provide you with the report for you to comment on? Was that the intent of the— Ms Rishniw: It was provided by the Treasury, I think. I need to just confirm how we received it. Senator KENEALLY: Is there anyone who can confirm that? Mr Roddam: I would need to go back and check whether it was from the Treasury or directly from the Productivity Commission. I think it was from the Treasury. Senator KENEALLY: So Treasury provided you with the draft of the Productivity Commission's report, which you understood to be a final version. Ms Rishniw: That's right.</p> | Page 58, 26 October |
| SQ20-000423 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Keneally, Kristina | Productivity Commission Report dates received | <p>Senator KENEALLY: When you say you're not sure if it's the final version, does that mean you were making an assumption that the Productivity Commission might change its report after discussions with the Treasurer, or the Treasury? Ms Rishniw: We would normally assume that it is the final report, provided by the Productivity Commission to the Treasurer. That's the report that was provided to us, on the basis of which we briefed our minister. But, as I say, until we see the final report tabled, which is a matter for the Treasurer— Senator KENEALLY: Right. Was the draft you saw dated? Ms Rishniw: It would have been, but I'd need to take on notice what date. Senator KENEALLY: Do you know on what date, approximately, you saw it? Was it provided to you? Ms Rishniw: I'll need to take that on notice. Senator KENEALLY: Are we talking three months ago, last week, last year? Ms Rishniw: It certainly wasn't last week, Senator. Senator KENEALLY: It's good we can rule that out! Senator Cash: My understanding is that the final report was provided to government on 30 June 2020. Any further changes for that report, consistent with the Productivity Commission's report, would be for the Treasurer. Anything more by anyone in this portfolio would be just speculation. You'd need to put those questions to the Treasurer—or, should I say, to his department. Senator KENEALLY: Thank you, Minister. That's actually quite useful. I'm not trying to—</p> | Page 58-59, 26 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator Cash: To be fair to the officials, it is a Productivity Commission—and this happens often, as you know.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: I suppose that's my point, because the minister's just—and, I think, quite helpfully for me—reminded us all that the version was provided on 30 June 2020.</p> <p>Senator Cash: Correct. That's my understanding.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Can you say whether you saw something after 30 June 2020, or was it before that?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: I'm confident that it was after 30 June 2020. As to when we got a copy of it in the department, I'll need to take that on notice.</p> | |
| SQ20-000424 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Griff, Stirling | Rheumatic Fever Strategy | <p>Senator GRIFF: Could you tell me how much has been spent by the Commonwealth on the Rheumatic Fever Strategy to date?</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: Rheumatic heart disease?</p> <p>Senator GRIFF: Yes.</p> <p>Page 74 Senate Monday, 26 October 2020</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: I'll try and answer. Usually we cover it in cross-portfolio Indigenous estimates.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I think Ms Rishniw might have some information, but the officers came last Friday, so she won't have the detail. We can certainly provide it on notice, given it was dealt with already, but, other than that, perhaps Ms Rishniw might need a bit of time to pull it up. You know there are various elements in the strategy. There's the register the states and territories have, and then there are specific projects in remote communities. It's a very effective and ongoing program. But, ideally, we'd take the detail of it on notice given that none of those officers are expected to be here today as they came on Friday.</p> <p>Senator GRIFF: Right. I'll put them all on notice. I've got quite a number of questions here.</p> | Page 73/74, 26 October |
| SQ20-000425 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Modified Monash Model funding and recipients | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can you provide the distribution of the recipients and funding by Modified Monash Model classification? You probably need to take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: I would have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can you take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: Yes.</p> | Page 91, 26 October |
| SQ20-000426 | 2 - Health Access and | Askew, Wendy | Hospice in the Home evaluation | <p>CHAIR: We used to have Hospice in the Home, which has obviously come to an end. Was there an evaluation done on that project?</p> | Page 91, 26 October |

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| | Support Services | | | Mr Cotterell: I'll have to take that on notice. CHAIR: If there is one, we'd like to be provided with it. That was my key question. I wanted to get the funding allocation, so that's good. | |
| SQ20-000427 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Palliative care in Victoria and Tasmania | Senator SIEWERT: I want to follow up on progress in delivery of palliative care in aged care. Victoria and Tasmania haven't signed up yet. The other states have—has the work started? Mr Cotterell: Those states would have signed last financial year. I would have to go away and check if it actually has, but we expect it would have started on 1 July. But we have had a COVID situation. Senator SIEWERT: I understand that—again, not casting 'nasturtiums' as my partner would say! I would appreciate an update if possible. Mr Cotterell: We'll do so on notice. | Page 91-92, 26 October |
| SQ20-000428 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Steele-John, Jordon | Thalidomide survivors seeking resources outside of Australia | Senator STEELE-JOHN: If a survivor is currently living outside Australia, what is the go there in terms of accessing these funding resources? Ms Appleyard: To be honest with you we're currently settling what exactly those arrangements will be for accessing different elements of the package for Australian citizens who may be living outside Australia. So I think I would prefer to take that one on notice and to provide you with some information once that's been settled. Senator STEELE-JOHN: Do you have a time line for when you hope to settle that? | Page 76, 26 October |
| SQ20-000429 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | CSIRO study of ticks | Senator SIEWERT: I've got some questions that I think would be best dealt with on notice, in terms of description of the project, under both those areas. What biobanks will be used to draw samples for the inclusion in the CSIRO study? Ms Street: I'm not sure I specifically have that with me. Senator SIEWERT: Do you want to take it on notice? Ms Street: Yes, I'll take it on notice, but if I do have it I'll come back to you shortly. Senator SIEWERT: That would be brilliant. Does the department contract require CSIRO to make the raw data and findings openly available? Will they publish the raw data? Ms Street: I understand the intention is to publish. I'm not sure about the raw data, so I'll take that on notice. | Page 32, 27 October |
| SQ20-000430 | 2 - Health Access and | McCarthy, Malarndirri | National Stillbirth Action and Implementation Plan | Senator McCARTHY: I want to go back to the questions in relation to the National Stillbirth Action and Implementation Plan. Mr Cotterell, we talked about where the draft plan was at; that was sitting in your inbox in terms of the next step with some of the things. I want to ask about the | Page 80, 26 October |

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| | Support Services | | | <p>consultations. CATSINaM were doing that form of consultation. Are you able to provide some further information on how those consultations went?</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: I might need to take that on notice and come back to you in this session. We did undertake targeted consultations, including online forums and phone interviews with bereaved parents, with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professionals, with culturally and linguistically diverse stakeholders and with new parents from rural, remote and regional populations. For more detail than that, I will have to come back to you.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Okay. Could you also take some further questions to look into around CATSINaM. I understand that their consultation was noted by the national stillbirth project reference group meeting on 30 July 2020. Could you provide further information about what they provided to that.</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: Yes.</p> | |
| SQ20-000431 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Polley, Helen | MBS Review Taskforce recommendations | <p>Senator POLLEY: So you're saying that those two quotes from the AMA and the late president of the college of GPs were wrong?</p> <p>Ms Shakespeare: I can only provide information about—</p> <p>Senator Cash: Senator Polley, just to be clear as well, this was as a result of the MBS Review Taskforce recommendations. That's my understanding.</p> <p>Ms Shakespeare: It's the government response to the MBS Review Taskforce.</p> <p>Senator Cash: Correct.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: What is the fiscal impact of this change? How much does it save the government?</p> <p>Ms Shakespeare: This was one change out of a whole series of changes made as a result of the MBS task force review into cardiac services. I'm not sure if we have the overall numbers here.</p> <p>Mr McBride: We're happy to provide that on notice.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Can we have that tonight?</p> <p>Mr McBride: We can certainly try.</p> | Page 92, 26 October |
| SQ20-000432 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Patient group consultation and contract extensions | <p>Senator SIEWERT: You just said you were consulting with those same groups about those materials. Did I understand that correctly?</p> <p>Ms Street: Yes. We will be consulting the patient groups.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: The time line for consultation is obviously before they're released. Can I take it that that consultation process will be before the end of the year?</p> | Page 33, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>Ms Street: That's our intention, yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: You'll go to those groups. Are there any other groups that you're considering including in that consultation list?</p> <p>Ms Street: I will take that on notice. I know definitely in terms of those ones that I mentioned earlier. I'll take on notice whether or not there are any others. We did consult a number for the pathways, and we wrote out to a lot and received responses from many. But I will check whether or not the intention is to go out to all of those groups. But I think it was three more targeted and focused on those five.</p> <p>...Senator SIEWERT: Did the delays in the development and the finalisation of that project result in contract extensions?</p> <p>Ms Street: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you provide the details of that?</p> <p>Ms Street: I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. That's the contract extension and any additional costs.</p> <p>Ms Street: We've also recruited Allen + Clarke to be involved in the education materials as well, so I will check whether or not that was a separate contract or an extension.</p> <p>...Senator SIEWERT: Could you take on notice the additional costs in the contract extensions for the original project, both for the contract extensions and any additional costs associated with that, and then the additional costs for their involvement in the production of the education materials?</p> <p>Ms Street: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: So the full costs of the project.</p> <p>Ms Street: Yes.</p> | |
| SQ20-000433 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Smith, Dean | National Cabinet mechanisms | <p>Senator DEAN SMITH: And how many times has the national cabinet met?</p> <p>Prof. Kelly: I'm not exactly sure. It's around 30, I think, but I can take that on notice.</p> | Page 37, 27 October |
| SQ20-000434 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Research arrangements around stillbirth | <p>Senator McCARTHY: Thank you. I want to take you back to some of the questions earlier on with Senator Keneally. I want to take you back to that letter that we tabled from the minister to Chris Bowen. That letter states: 'Key stakeholders, including the Stillbirth CRE and the SBF, have advised officers in my department that they are satisfied with current research funding arrangements administered by NHMRC.' When was the last time officers in the department met with key stakeholders, including the Stillbirth CRE and the SBF?</p> | Page 80, 26 October |

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| | | | | <p>Mr Cotterell: I think there is ongoing consultation with them about the plan. I will have to take on notice the exact dates.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Okay. Thank you. How often does the department meet with key stakeholders, including the Stillbirth CRE and the SBF?</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: When did key stakeholders, including the Stillbirth CRE and the SBF, advise officers in your department that they are satisfied with the current research funding arrangements?</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: Again, I will have to take it on notice. Apologies.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Did the officers in the department receive written or verbal confirmation from key stakeholders, including the Stillbirth CRE and the SBF, that they are satisfied with the current research funding arrangements?</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: Apologies, I'll have to take that one on notice too.</p> | |
| SQ20-000435 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Telehealth and rural GPs | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Of the people living in the bush who don't have an established relationship with a GP, for how many is that because the books are full?</p> <p>Mr McBride: I'm not sure we have that.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It used to be a problem. Is it not anymore?</p> <p>Mr McBride: It's not a problem that's been raised in the context of telehealth, to the best of my knowledge.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can you check that.</p> <p>Mr McBride: Yes</p> | Page 99, 26 October |
| SQ20-000436 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | McKenzie, Bridget | Firearms and transmission of COVID-19 | <p>Senator MCKENZIE: Or the practise of recreational shooting, hunting or—</p> <p>Dr Murphy: I don't believe so. I believe that the chief health officers in the states who may have supported bans were more worried about the access to firearms in conditions of lockdown and lack of social cohesion. I've heard that view expressed by some people—</p> <p>Senator MCKENZIE: So have I.</p> <p>Dr Murphy: but I don't believe there's any evidence of transmission of the virus.</p> <p>Senator MCKENZIE: So there's no evidence of transmission of the virus. You've come to my final question. The reason that I've heard that—and that's been publicly expressed, unfortunately, by the said minister, Senator Carr—is around a relationship between the increased propensity of domestic violence and law-abiding firearm ownership. Is that a piece of research or evidence or advice that</p> | Page 40, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>was provided to national cabinet or the health committee?</p> <p>Dr Murphy: Again, I cannot comment on what did or didn't go to national cabinet.</p> <p>Senator MCKENZIE: Okay. Irrespective of whether it rocks up at national cabinet, irrespective of whether it's gone through the health committee, in your professional opinion, does such a piece of evidence exist?</p> <p>Dr Murphy: I would have to—</p> <p>Senator MCKENZIE: Could you take it on notice.</p> <p>Dr Murphy: I'm not personally aware of evidence, but it's not an area that I'm expert in.</p> <p>Senator MCKENZIE: Maybe you could take it on notice.</p> <p>Dr Murphy: We can certainly take it on notice.</p> | |
| SQ20-000437 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Indexation of funding for alcohol and drug treatment | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Minister, is it possible that the government will be considering any indexation for the funding of these services?</p> <p>Senator Cash: I would need to take that on notice.</p> | Page 84, 26 October |
| SQ20-000438 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | McLachlan, Andrew | Collaboration between jurisdictions and regulatory agencies | <p>Senator McLACHLAN: Could you provide on notice how many memorandums of understanding you have in place, and with which states? If it's possible to provide those memorandums of understanding, I'd appreciate it, and also how many audits you've conducted at the request of a state or territory and where they've been conducted.</p> <p>Dr Larsson: We'll do that.</p> | Page 41, 27 October |
| SQ20-000439 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Polley, Helen | Voluntary Patient Enrolment | <p>Senator POLLEY: Yes, but COVID has been going for some months, and I understand this funding was allocated last year. Why are we only now hearing about this, and why hasn't there been a public announcement to this effect?</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: We'd have to check. I thought there was a statement on the department's website. We were in continuous communication with all of the relevant peak bodies, and they were keeping their members informed.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: To the best of my knowledge, there is nothing on the website. Can you check that as well and come back to us. I would have thought there would be lot of interest in this program. To have that come to light during the estimates process, to be just finding out about it now, is a little disappointing, to say the least.</p> <p>Ms Rishniw: We'll check and come back. But, obviously, with all the changes around telehealth and the rapid changes that have progressed, it was one of the things that needed to be delayed.</p> | Page 102, 26 October |

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| SQ20-000440 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Data breakdown of National AOD Hotline | <p>Senator SIEWERT: I'm sure you would somewhere. Do you want to take it on notice?</p> <p>Mr Laffan: We're happy to take it on notice, but I would also note that the National AOD Hotline is essentially a single point of entry into a variety of systems. So you will be diverted geographically to the jurisdiction in which you are located unless, for some jurisdictions, that's at night where it diverts through to phone lines that are run by Turning Point for afterhours services.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: So, given what we've been discussing regarding reports of increases and decreases and it is diverted to the states, we don't have a clear picture of where we're seeing that increase at the moment, or would that—</p> <p>Mr Laffan: We will have data that's broken down state by state, but, because of some of that diversion, Victoria will look higher because that's where Turning Point are located.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Also because they have got the extended lockdown.</p> <p>Ms Appleyard: Yes, that's right.</p> <p>Mr Laffan: We won't be able to give you total volumes because we don't know exactly how many calls the states receive just to their normal number.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Okay. If you can provide as much data as you can—I understand the limitations—that would be great.</p> | Page 86, 26 October |
| SQ20-000441 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Siewert, Rachel | 90-Day Cheque Scheme expenditure | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Do you know what the total expenditure of the scheme is? You may need to take these on notice. Are you able to tell us that?</p> <p>Ms Shakespeare: I don't think I've got that level of data here.</p> <p>Senator Cash: Are you happy for them to take it on notice?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes, I'm happy for you to take it on notice. If it's easy, as it saves you taking it on notice, you can do I now.</p> <p>Mr McBride: I don't have it with me, sorry.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Also what is the admin cost for running the scheme for 2018-19 and 2019-20. Would you have that data?</p> <p>Mr McBride: We'll have to take that on notice. I think we've done that, from memory, and if we have, we can answer quite quickly, but I don't have it with me today.</p> | Page 105, 26 October |
| SQ20-000442 | 5 - Regulation, | McLachlan, Andrew | Data around business flows | <p>Senator McLACHLAN: I'm also interested in the take-up of those services and the volumes that you're doing.</p> <p>Dr Larsson: In the case of the regulatory services we provide, it's 100 per cent, of course, because</p> | Page 43, 27 October |

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| | Safety and Protection | | | <p>we are the regulators for the Commonwealth entities. For the Australian Clinical Dosimetry Service that we were just talking about, we have an uptake which is now 100 per cent. We also deliver calibration services, and it's more difficult to say what our uptake is with some of those calibration services, but it's important to note that we maintain the national standard for some of those, so essentially all the dosimeters across Australia in the hospitals are calibrated against our national standard.</p> <p>Senator McLACHLAN: I was wondering if you could take on notice some of the data around the business flows for me.</p> | |
| SQ20-000443 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Breakdown of staff that assist with the Youth Taskforce | <p>Senator McCARTHY: Does the Youth Taskforce utilise any staff from elsewhere within Health or the Public Service other than those two secondees?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: Yes, it does. It has a coordinating function, which has the eight staff that Ms Flynn was talking about. It also has contacts in various departments and throughout the Department of Health. For example, in the Health portfolio, youth mental health is a core function, so Ms Flynn and her team would work very closely with staff in the Mental Health Division and also, through their secondees but also directly, with in particular the Department of Education, Skills and Employment, in relation to the activities that they're doing that particularly affect youth and a range of other departments on things that might affect or interest young people.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Do you have numbers of those staff? You've given me the eight FTE.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: No. Those eight are the ones that are dedicated to the task, but it's really to draw on the activities that are happening across large—</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Please take it on notice, but do you have raw numbers for those areas and departments in terms of staff at different times?</p> | Page 87, 26 October |
| SQ20-000444 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Carr, Kim | Radiation Health and Safety Advisory Committee - meetings | <p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. When did the Radiation Health and Safety Advisory Committee last meet?</p> <p>Dr Larsson: It met virtually, in a virtual meeting, probably a week ago.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Where was that? That was online, was it?</p> <p>Dr Larsson: That was online.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: And when was the previous meeting?</p> <p>Dr Larsson: I can't recall exactly. I can take that on notice, but we had a previous meeting which was</p> | Page 43, 27 October |

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| | | | | online. The normal frequency of the meetings is three times a year, and it's two days every time. But with COVID, of course, we have gone to other working arrangements. | |
| SQ20-000445 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Siewert, Rachel | Voluntary hearing screening for school-age students | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can I then go to table 2.4.3, which is the delivery activity statement. It talks about the pilot voluntary hearing screening for school-age students. Is there a cost? I'm after the details of that—the cost and the number of children that will be screened. How does it then deal with the access to support post screening?</p> <p>Ms Garrett: Apologies, Senator; I don't have that detail with me.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Do you want me to put that on notice?</p> <p>Ms Garrett: Yes, please.</p> | Page 107, 26 October |
| SQ20-000446 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Consultants used in Youth Taskforce activities | <p>Senator McCARTHY: Have consultants been used, or has any work been contracted out, for any Youth Taskforce activities?</p> <p>Ms Flynn: We did use consultants to facilitate face-to-face consultations in 2019. The consultants we used were Cox Inall Ridgeway.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: How much was spent on that particular consultancy?</p> <p>Ms Flynn: I'll have to take that one on notice.</p> | Page 87, 26 October |
| SQ20-000447 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Siewert, Rachel | Drugs in the microsatellite instability group | <p>Senator SIEWERT: I will go to a specific group of drugs in the microsatellite instability group, which apparently are required for a small percentage of bowel and stomach cancers. They're very expensive. I would like to know if they are being considered for PBS access?</p> <p>Ms Platona: Can I take that on notice?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes. I must admit I don't know a lot about the microsatellite instability group! But if you could take that on notice that would be appreciated.</p> | Page 112, 26 October |
| SQ20-000448 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Siewert, Rachel | Pharmacist payments for administration | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Pharmacists get paid for doing this don't they?</p> <p>Ms Platona: Correct.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take on notice what that is? I presume it varies with the different aids and things or is just one fee?</p> <p>Ms Platona: The fee.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It's just one fee across everything?</p> <p>Mr Sladic: I will take it on notice for the dose administration aids to confirm that I think it is a partial subsidisation of about \$5.50, for each dose administration, that the pharmacist gets paid under the community pharmacy agreement. But that doesn't stop them charging private fees</p> | Page 113, 26 October |

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| | | | | separately to that. For the actual patient the amount that is subsidised through the pharmacy agreement from the government is about \$5.50, but I will confirm that on notice. | |
| SQ20-000449 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Practice Incentives Program evaluation and reform | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Okay. I wanted to look at the Practice Incentives Program. Have you ever done an evaluation of the program?</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: I'm not aware of an evaluation, but I'll need to check if one has been done before my time.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Okay.</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: There was some reform of the program a couple of years ago to try to fold a large number of incentives into one, but we ended up with more than one. At that time I don't know if an evaluation was used as the first step in that process.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: So you'll take that on notice?</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: Yes.</p> | Page 90, 26 October |
| SQ20-000450 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Satisfaction regarding The Stillbirth CRE and SBF | <p>Senator McCARTHY: I do have quite a few questions in relation to this, Mr Cotterell. I'm sure you'll probably take them on notice.</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: Apologies that I don't have all the detail here.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Do officers in the department have any records to confirm that key stakeholders, including the Stillbirth CRE and the SBF, did advise that they're satisfied with the current research funding arrangements?</p> <p>Mr Cotterell: I'll have to take that one on notice. I'm sure my staff are watching this and going through the records now.</p> | Page 81, 26 October |
| SQ20-000451 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Siewert, Rachel | Staged supply for medicines under the opioid dependency treatment program | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Does staged supply apply to medicines dispensed under the opioid dependency treatment program?</p> <p>Ms Platona: I will check that. It is designed through the provision of medicines in instalments where they are requested by a prescriber with an aim to improve medication adherence. I will find that for you.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: So you don't know if that applies to those who are getting treatment under the opioid dependence program? That's prescribed, isn't it?</p> <p>Ms Platona: I'll take that on notice, Senator.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: So you can't tell me if those medications are part of the staged supply?</p> <p>Ms Platona: I don't know.</p> | Page 113-114 26 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator SIEWERT: It makes it hard for me to ask my other questions if you don't know that. Does anybody know?</p> <p>Mr Sladic: As far as the crossover between the opioid dependence treatment program and the community pharmacy staged supply program, similarly, I would need to take that on notice and check. But my understanding is that the opioid dependence treatment program is probably separate to that and relates to money that goes to states and territories for the delivery of some of that.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: So they can't access the staged supply, is that right?</p> <p>Mr Sladic: I'm not sure if they're two different things. That's what I think I need to check on notice as well.</p> | |
| SQ20-000452 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Private Health Insurance increases | <p>Senator McCARTHY: Can you give us the number and the names?</p> <p>Mr Kelleher: Yes. To add to Ms Shakespeare's response, we did engage with their peaks, Private Healthcare Australia and Members Health Fund Alliance, and, through them, with each of the insurers. But, yes, as you've requested, we will go back and see who we spoke to individually as well.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Thanks, Mr Kelleher. Can you confirm that private health insurance premiums have risen 32.94 per cent since 2014?</p> <p>Mr Kelleher: I'd need to do the calculation on that.</p> | Page 116, 26 October |
| SQ20-000453 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Polley, Helen | MDRAP program and GP shortages | <p>Mrs Holden: The MDRAP program commenced on 29 April 2019, and to date we've had 389 doctors that have participated in the program. As at 1 September 2020, there are currently 344 doctors still on the program. The program has a time limitation with the expectation that doctors will move from the program onto a formal training program, such as the Australian General Practice Training Program, the Practice Experience Program with the RACGP or the independent pathway with ACRRM.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Can you give us any further information in relation to where the shortages of GPs are in remote and regional Australia?</p> | Page 64, 26 October |
| SQ20-000454 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Smith, Dean | Private Health Insurance increases compared to Labor | <p>Senator DEAN SMITH: Can you confirm that the government's reforms have, in fact, delivered the lowest average premium changes in 19 years?</p> <p>Mr Kelleher: The last premium increase of 2.92 was the lowest annual increase in 19 years.</p> <p>Senator DEAN SMITH: That's right. For 2020, it was what? Just 2.92 per cent.</p> | Page 116-117 26 October |

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| | | | | <p>Mr Kelleher: The approved premium increase was 2.92 on average. That came into effect at 1 April and, as was discussed earlier, deferred by all insurers from 1 April for a period of six months.</p> <p>Senator DEAN SMITH: Is it also true to say that the average premium change is approximately 50 per cent below premium changes under Labor?</p> <p>Mr Kelleher: I would have to do some calculations to confirm that.</p> <p>Senator DEAN SMITH: Can you do that in your head?</p> <p>Mr Kelleher: No, I'm not that good.</p> <p>Senator DEAN SMITH: It might be more powerful to actually do the calculation on notice and demonstrate it. I'm pretty sure it's an accurate statement, but I'm very happy to have it verified by the department.</p> <p>Mr Kelleher: I'll take it on notice.</p> | |
| SQ20-000455 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Siewert, Rachel | Mental health provider consultations | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you take on notice to give us a list of the mental health providers that have been consulted, the industry representatives that have been consulted and any other community stakeholders in mental health that have been consulted?</p> <p>Mr Kelleher: Yes.</p> | Page 118, 26 October |
| SQ20-000456 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Siewert, Rachel | Compliance action for providers | <p>Mr McCabe: Through a number of things. You talked about our targeted letters. We watch providers' claiming behaviours subsequent to receiving those letters. We do a number of education interventions and we monitor those changes as well. Then we also monitor changes for other compliance activities for providers, as well, to see what impact that's had on their claiming patterns for those specific concerns over the following 12 months from the intervention.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Is the \$312 million a cumulative total or is that over one financial year?</p> <p>Mr McCabe: That's one financial year.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: And that is separate to the—</p> <p>Mr McCabe: Yes, separate to the direct recoveries.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: How many providers does the \$52.4 million cover?</p> <p>Mr McCabe: I don't have that exact number. I'd have to take that on notice.</p> | Page 121-122 26 October |
| SQ20-000457 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Siewert, Rachel | Opioid dependence treatment program eligibility | <p>Mr Sladic: People who are receiving medicines through the state and territory-run opioid dependence treatment programs aren't eligible to participate in the Staged Supply Program.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Why is that?</p> <p>Mr Sladic: Because the opioid dependence treatment programs are run through the states and</p> | Page 123-124 26 October |

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| | | | | territories. As I think we clarified in the earlier evidence, the Commonwealth pays for the cost of the drugs that are under the ODTP program, and—I think I'd prefer to clarify this on notice—the drugs covered by ODTP are different to the drugs that are covered under Staged Supply. | |
| SQ20-000458 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Carr, Kim | Nuclear Safety Committee meetings | <p>Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. The Nuclear Safety Committee met on 6 March. Is that equally overdue?</p> <p>Dr Larsson: The Nuclear Safety Committee has met in between, and it's also scheduled to meet next month.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: It says here that it met on 6 March, and you say it's met since then; is that correct?</p> <p>Dr Larsson: Yes, it has.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: Alright. I must have misread the statement that was tabled yesterday. Could you check that for me, please? Dr Larsson: It is very likely that the meeting in between was before the end of last quarter, not this quarter.</p> <p>Senator KIM CARR: I'm sorry; I'm reading from your quarterly report, that's all.</p> <p>Dr Larsson: Yes. We can provide verification.</p> | Page 44, 27 October |
| SQ20-000459 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Staged Supply for opioid dependency further questions | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Sorry, can I just ask one question?</p> <p>CHAIR: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It goes back to last night when we were talking about the Staged Supply for opioid dependency. We were also talking about the review and having a consumer representative on there beyond NACCHO and the Consumers Health Forum. You took on notice to look at that. Can you take on notice to report back to us?</p> <p>Dr Murphy: Sure.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I urge you to take on another consumer with knowledge of opioid dependency. Can you take that on notice and take on notice to report back to us on that?</p> <p>Dr Murphy: We will.</p> | Page 46, 27 October |
| SQ20-000460 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Keneally, Kristina | Mortality rates associated with COVID-19 in aged care homes | <p>Senator KENEALLY: In fact, Minister, I'm referring to the mortality associated with COVID-19 in care homes. International evidence produced by the International Long-term Care Policy Network demonstrates the number of care home resident deaths as a percentage of all COVID-19 deaths. You've got Slovenia, 81 per cent; Canada, 80 per cent; and Australia, 75 per cent. In fact, New Zealand doesn't even have a ranking here.</p> | Page 46-47 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator Colbeck: New Zealand sits at about 72 per cent. Senator KENEALLY: Can you table your source of that data? Senator Colbeck: I'm happy to do that on notice.</p> | |
| SQ20-000461 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Keneally, Kristina | Ministerial transcript availability | <p>Senator KENEALLY: Your answer to me is that if Australians who are not members of parliament want to read your transcripts, they have to sign up to Isentia media monitoring services? Senator Colbeck: No, it's an example. Senator KENEALLY: Well, do you have any other examples? Senator Colbeck: Not offhand, no. Senator KENEALLY: Could you take that on notice? Senator Colbeck: I'll take that on notice, yes.</p> | Page 49, 27 October |
| SQ20-000462 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Infections rates of aged care workers | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. I go back to the workforce and the number who caught it. Do you have a breakdown for how many who were nurses, personal care workers and other support staff in the facilities? Senator Colbeck: The data I have in front of me doesn't go to that level of detail. Senator SIEWERT: Mr Lye? Mr Lye: No. Senator Colbeck: I don't think we have it to that level of detail. Mr Lye: We are doing some work. Senator Colbeck: The Victorian government may some of that, but that's not part of the information that I have here today. Senator SIEWERT: Could you take— Senator Colbeck: We'll see if we can find some analysis on that. Senator SIEWERT: Could you find some analysis on that, please? Senator Colbeck: The Victorians did do some work, particularly about infection rates within the workplace. I think, from recollection—and this goes back a little while; the information's been published—it compared 924 personal care workers, and I think about 80 per cent of them had contracted the virus at work, and 922 nurses, and 79 per cent of them had contracted the virus at work. It was a very similar infection rate for a very, very similar number of personal care workers in aged care and nurses in hospitals. Senator SIEWERT: Adding that up, there are still a number of other staff—</p> | Page 51-52 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator Colbeck: They were just some comparative numbers. The personal care workers would form a cohort of this. The nurse category was in hospitals. We're talking about the infection rates and the likelihood of them being infected in the various settings. I can find the piece of research for you if you want to have a look at it, Senator.</p> | |
| SQ20-000463 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Keneally, Kristina | Aged Car Financing Authority sitting fee | <p>Senator KENEALLY: Does Mr Barnier get paid for being a member of the Aged Care Financing Authority.</p> <p>Mr Smith: Yes. There's a sitting fee that is attracted to each meeting.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: What is that?</p> <p>Mr Smith: It's in the order of—and I can take that on notice—\$450 per meeting.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Because I am out of time, you may want to take this on notice. Do any Aged Care Financing Authority members, other than Mr Barnier, have contracts with the department?</p> <p>Mr Lye: With the government or with the department? We're happy to take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: I don't expect you to know for the whole of government, but do you know for the department?</p> <p>Mr Smith: I think the answer is no. We'll take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I think you should take it on notice, because I think that there may have been in undertaking different roles. I think the chair of ACFA has another role with another department.</p> <p>Mr Smith: Mike Callaghan—</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Mike Callaghan, who is the chair of ACFA, was also the chair of the—</p> <p>Mr Lye: Retirement income review.</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Yes, the retirement income review. There may be other examples, so I think we're safer to take it on notice.</p> | Page 57 27 October |
| SQ20-000464 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | One worker, one site policy triggers | <p>Mr Lye: So we have agreed to bring together, in one format, a document with the triggers so that people can understand in this period, going forward, as the minister is saying, at what point we would institute various things in aged care. The idea there is to give them some confidence that with community transmission of very low levels, in most jurisdictions, they can agree to a more liberal visitation policy, albeit making sure that when people come into a facility they screen them. One worker, one site—the Commonwealth definition of when things start to be at an uncontrolled level in the community—at that more serious level, that is when we would aim to trigger the one worker, one site policy.</p> | Page 59, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Is there a more technical term than 'uncontrolled'? To be clear, are you able to provide us with that document or the draft, so we can get an idea of what—?</p> <p>Mr Lye: The draft is with the committees within AHPPC, including the Aged Care Advisory Group, but our aim is to have that available in the next few days.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Question on notice: can you provide it to the committee?</p> <p>Mr Lye: Yes.</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: As soon as it's available, we will make it available to the committee.</p> | |
| SQ20-000467 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Aged care royal commission COVID-19 special report | <p>Senator McCARTHY: Minister, the aged care royal commission presented its special report on COVID-19 to the Governor-General on 30 September. When did you receive a copy of the report?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I saw a copy of the report the evening before it was published</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: What was that date?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I will have to check the date. It was published on a Thursday afternoon. I saw a copy the night before.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Did it come to you with a brief from the department, that copy that you saw?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Not from my recollection.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: It came straight as a report to you? Senator Colbeck: I'd have to check. There were a few other things going on that day, so I would have to check. I'm not trying to avoid it or anything. I just want to make sure I give the right advice to the committee. I know I read the report.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: If I could get a date on when you received it that evening.</p> | Page 63, 27 October |
| SQ20-000468 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Griff, Stirling | ACAT data release | <p>Senator GRIFF: Originally you expected there would be some initial releases of the data. The data is critical. You don't want data that's five years old in relation to ACAT. Originally you expected that you would be releasing at least partial data in March of this year.</p> <p>Mr Smith: Yes, that's right. The project has been delayed, as Dr Hartland said. It's been running for some time. This year has been particularly challenging for the team responsible for overseeing that project. They've been significantly diverted to other activities. That is part of the reason. The other part of the reason, though, is just the complexity and unforeseen challenges in that piece of work. Unfortunately—I know that I'm responding to a QON here that you've already put in—I would have to get some more detail on notice about the next set of time frames around that.</p> <p>Senator GRIFF: If you could get back to me with what you see as the time frames, I'd appreciate that.</p> | Page 67, 27 October |

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| SQ20-000469 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Griff, Stirling | Sanctions issued to approved aged care providers | <p>Senator GRIFF: A number of my questions I will be putting on notice, but my next question relates to a letter I received from the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commissioner. This was in response to concerns I raised about Integrity Care (SA) providing aged-care service. Minister, you would be aware of that group. In the letter it stated that 'Integrity Care is not an approved provider of aged-care services but that Integrity Care was subcontracted by a number of approved providers in South Australia.' You subsequently confirmed with these approved providers that their contract with Integrity Care was either terminated or under consideration to be terminated. Can you confirm that all subcontracting arrangements with Integrity Care (SA) and approved aged-care providers have now ceased?</p> <p>Dr Hartland: My understanding is that all subcontracting arrangements have ceased.</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I don't think that Integrity Care is providing services to any provider. That is my understanding.</p> <p>Senator GRIFF: The Aged Care Act deems that subcontractor care is still care delivered by the relevant approved aged-care provider. The care delivered by a subcontractor provider like Integrity Care on behalf of the approved provider is directly relevant to the approved provider's compliance with their duties and suitability as an approved provider. Have any sanctions been issued to approved providers as a consequence of breaches made by unapproved providers that they have subcontracted aged-care services to?</p> <p>Ms Anderson: I would have to take that on notice. I would be happy to get back to you on that.</p> <p>Senator GRIFF: Could you also on notice advise the number of complaints associated with subcontracted care of approved providers?</p> <p>Ms Anderson: Yes, with the qualification that I'm not sure how good our database is in that search field, but we'll give it a go.</p> | Page 67-68 27 October |
| SQ20-000470 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Contracts for surge workforce | <p>Senator SIEWERT: So do you have any other contracts for surge workforce at the moment?</p> <p>Ms Laffan: We certainly do. We still have arrangements in place with Aspen Medical; with Healthcare Australia; with the Recruitment, Consulting and Staffing Association; with Torrens Health; and with HealthX.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: How long do those contracts go for?</p> <p>Ms Laffan: Off of the top of my head, all of them go to the end of the financial year, except for the Aspen contract, which I believe expires on 30 October. We're currently—</p> | Page 70, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator SIEWERT: This year?</p> <p>Ms Laffan: Yes. And we're currently in negotiations with Aspen.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: In other words: the day after tomorrow?</p> <p>Ms Laffan: Correct.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Did I hear you say that you're negotiating with them?</p> <p>Ms Laffan: That's correct.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: How long will you be extending that contract for?</p> <p>Ms Laffan: Depending on those negotiations being successful, it's likely that we would also extend to the end of the financial year.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: What's the value in total of all of those? I'll get you to take on notice the individuals so I'm not taking up everyone's time, but what's the total?</p> | |
| SQ20-000471 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Polley, Helen | Shepparton facility conversations | <p>Senator POLLEY: My questions relate to the DP Jones nursing home in Inglewood. Minister, given that more than \$½ million of taxpayer funds have been spent on keeping the DP Jones nursing home open, when was the last time there was a conversation with the Deputy Prime Minister or the member for Nicholls about the facility in Shepparton?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I haven't spoken to the DPM on the matter for a considerable period of time. I ran into the member for Nicholls at the cafeteria today. He asked what was happening with it. I said that there's no further movement at this point in time. So, I had a conversation with the member for Nicholls today, in a casual sense.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: And the Deputy Prime Minister?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I haven't spoken directly with the Deputy Prime Minister on this matter for some months, I don't think. I'd have to take it on notice, specifically, and I'm not sure I would have an actual record of the conversation. But I haven't had a specific conversation myself with the Deputy Prime Minister about that facility for some considerable period of time.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: But you will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Yes, sure.</p> | Page 71, 27 October |
| SQ20-000472 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Polley, Helen | Expended funds DP Jones | <p>Senator POLLEY: What is the figure that has been provided from the health budget since residents moved out on 7 and 8 February this year, or thereabouts, of that \$517,000? How much of that has been expended since 7 February—to date?</p> <p>Mr Smith: I'd have to take the exact number on notice, although I will state that around \$400,000</p> | Page 71, 27 October |

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| | | | | relates to when residents were in care. We received an invoice for that after 7 February in order to wrap up those costs. But in terms of costs relating to when there were no residents in care, that is in the order of \$117,000. | |
| SQ20-000473 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Polley, Helen | Residential aged care facilities receiving departmental assistance | <p>Senator POLLEY: How many residential aged-care facilities is the Morrison government funding to keep open and how many of these still have residents and facilities on site?</p> <p>Mr Smith: There are a number of facilities that the Department of Health is providing support to through a range of mechanisms. It could be through the business advisory service, where providers can access free business advice to improve their operations and sustainability through the Business Improvement Fund. There are instances, like the DP Jones Nursing Home, where we've provided funding where there have been particular extraordinary circumstances.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Can you give us the number that are in that position and the names of those that have been assisted by the department? The names would be better than just the numbers.</p> <p>Mr Smith: Across all of those programs, I would have to take that on notice. I can tell you the numbers. The number of providers supported so far through the Business Improvement Fund is 48, but there are a number of other applications—around 30 or so—that are still being processed. Some 260 providers have accessed support through the business advisory service.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Will you take that on notice, so that we can get the names?</p> <p>Mr Smith: I can take that full detail on notice, Senator, yes.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: That would be great.</p> | Page 72-73, 27 October |
| SQ20-000474 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Polley, Helen | Correspondence regarding the closure of Inglewood | <p>Senator POLLEY: Thank you, Minister. With the imminent closure of Inglewood aged care in Queensland, has the member for Maranoa made representations to you about keeping the facility open?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I'd have to check whether there's any correspondence, but I've not had any personal conversations that I can recall. I'll check and come back to you.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Has the department had any representation?</p> <p>Mr Smith: Not from the member. We're aware of the closure of that facility.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Thank you for taking that on notice. Minister, in today's—</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Sorry, I have had some correspondence from the member for Maranoa.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: When was that, Minister?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I'll take that on notice and come back to you with the date. Someone's watching</p> | Page 73 & 77, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>me, so they'll probably tell me very soon. As soon as I've got the information, I'll let you know.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I can respond to Senator Polley's question around Inglewood. I received representation from Minister Littleproud on the 7th. My office has been working with him with respect to the three residents that were at the Inglewood facility, and those interactions continue. Minister Littleproud was advocating on behalf of the residents at the facility, and the interactions with my office continued until at least the 15th of this month. I'm not sure that the situation is resolved. There were three residents at the facility. One of them has decided to move somewhere else. There are two others still making the decision as to what they might do.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: So will you take that on notice still as well?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Yes, okay.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: That would be great. Thank you.</p> | |
| SQ20-000475 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Polley, Helen | Southern Cross facility closure | <p>Senator POLLEY: Are you concerned about the potential to lose those 74 beds from southern Tasmania? Or are you confident there's no shortage of beds?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Southern Cross will retain the beds. It may be that they undertake some other development, for example.</p> <p>Senator POLLEY: Will you take it on notice then?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I'm happy to take it on notice. I think my curiosity probably matches yours as to the site, as a Tasmanian Senator. I'm sure Senator Askew has a similar view.</p> | Page 74, 27 October |
| SQ20-000476 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Chandler, Claire | Inclusion guidelines and Pride in Sport | <p>Senator CHANDLER: I'll put a question on notice to you that Sport Australia provide me with the details of any organisation, sporting or otherwise, that requested the development of the trans inclusion guidelines. I'm particularly interested to know whether Pride in Sport was one of those organisations.</p> <p>Mr Dalton: I can take that on notice.</p> | Page 109, 27 October |
| SQ20-000477 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Mable contract extension | <p>Senator SIEWERT: I want to go back to the questions I was asking around the naval contract. Why wasn't the naval contract extended?</p> <p>Ms Laffan: It was, essentially, because parties were unable to reach an agreement on the terms of the contract.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: On how much they would be paid, do you mean?</p> <p>Ms Laffan: No, it was a different term of the contract.</p> | Page 74, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator SIEWERT: What was that? Ms Laffan: I'm not sure whether— Senator SIEWERT: Can you check and take it on notice—if you need to check whether you can tell me. Ms Laffan: Yes.</p> | |
| SQ20-000478 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Rice, Janet | Projects that had requests for information | <p>Senator RICE: Yes, entirely for what was basically pork-barrelling—handing out money and making promises before the election. It was not based on need; it was basically based on where they could win votes. Can I ask you to take on notice, please, which of the projects had the requests for information sent out by Infrastructure and which had them sent out by Health? Senator Colbeck: We can do that, yes. Ms Edwards: We can do that, can't we?</p> | Page 111, 27 October |
| SQ20-000479 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Aged care workers on stand by | <p>Senator SIEWERT: What are the others doing for the contracts that are being extended to the end of the financial year? What have they been contracted for? What I mean is: what are the other contractors that you've subsequently extended the contracts for, or have ongoing contracts for, to the end of the financial year? What are they? Ms Laffan: Similarly, for workforce supply and support. Part of it is we're funding some baseline capacity, so that there are staff ready to go urgently if that's what's required. Senator SIEWERT: Tell me how that works—you're paying a company to have staff waiting if they're needed to go into aged care. Ms Laffan: For limited numbers, yes. Senator SIEWERT: How many? Ms Laffan: I'd have to take that on notice.</p> | Page 74, 27 October |
| SQ20-000480 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Rice, Janet | Answers to Questions that have been changed by Sport Australia | <p>Senator RICE: So then Sport Australia duly note the advice and duly edit their questions in response to your advice—is that what occurs? Senator Colbeck: Sport Australia are responsible for providing the answers. The normal process is that they come through my office for noting, and that's what occurs. Senator RICE: No, but that's noting; it isn't providing, essentially, editing that then goes back to Sport Australia. Can you take on notice where the answers to the questions on notice have been changed by Sport Australia after advice from your office? Senator Colbeck: I'll take that on notice.</p> | Page 112, 27 October |

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| SQ20-000481 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Aged car staff capacity for short notice | <p>Senator SIEWERT: So why are we paying other organisations? Are these organisations just providing that potential surge workforce in Victoria or elsewhere?</p> <p>Mr Lye: To give you an example, on the weekend we had a facility where the staff member tested positive, coming out of the East Preston school outbreak in Melbourne. That facility was well equipped to supplement its workforce, but a significant number of staff were, I think, furloughed. So we need a capacity to bring people in very immediately to make sure rosters are filled, should that be necessary.</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Fifty per cent of the workforce.</p> <p>Mr Lye: Ms Laffan can correct me around the degree to which the organisation has supplied immediate staffing itself, but we obviously need a capacity to come in and assist at very, very short notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: How many staff?</p> <p>Mr Lye: We will come back on notice with what the standing capacity is with our contracts, but in that case I think 39 staff might have been furloughed.</p> | Page 75, 27 October |
| SQ20-000482 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Contractor funding for aged care stand by workforce | <p>Ms Laffan: Firstly, it's largely activity based funding. For the workforce that's supplied, that's what the provider invoices the department or an aged-care provider for. There is some baseline capacity. We also have rates for low, medium and high seasons—for when it's more difficult to source workers. There is also a component of base funding. That base funding is different for each of the contracts that we hold but includes things like project management, IT capability and reporting.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Is there a percentage set, or does it depend on each of the providers?</p> <p>Ms Laffan: On each of the providers and through negotiation with the department.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can you take on notice what the base funding is for each of the contractors?</p> <p>Ms Laffan: I can.</p> | Page 75, 27 October |
| SQ20-000483 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Rice, Janet | Community Sports Infrastructure Guidelines | <p>Senator RICE: Okay. This goes to further contradictions in evidence that we have received in the select committee. There's evidence from Sport Australia that they received a copy of the community sports infrastructure guidelines on 31 May 2018, but the Department of Health have given evidence that they didn't provide a copy of the guidelines on 31 May 2018. I want to know which of you is correct and what the sequence was for the Department of Health providing advice to Sport Australia.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: It will probably take more time than you've got for me to go back through all the</p> | Page 112, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>QONs, but, as I recall, there was an iterative process. Some officers in the Office of Sport provided an initial draft, a template type draft, of guidelines, and they went back and forth with advice. It was mostly done by the Sports Commission. I'm not sure of exactly the dates on which we started and so on—although Mr Godkin's flicking furiously through his folder and may be able to assist. The base situation here was that we were working together. We were endeavouring to help the Sports Commission by providing some template guidelines, but they were really then developed by them. I'm not sure what the discrepancies in dates you're referring to are—we'd have to go back through—but we can take it on notice to come back and see if we can explain why we might have noted it differently. It might have something to do with us providing an early draft and it coming back and forth. It was certainly just a collaborative process at the beginning. We endeavoured to help.</p> <p>Senator RICE: Always helpful! Thank you. Thank you, Chair.</p> | |
| SQ20-000484 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Patrick, Rex | Equestrian Australia finances | <p>Senator PATRICK: In respect of the high performance program for Equestrian Australia, how much money has gone to Equestrian Australia over the last couple of financial years?</p> <p>Mr Dalton: Senator, I might call upon the head of the Australian Institute of Sport, Peter Conde, to answer that question.</p> <p>Mr Conde: To give you accurate figures, I would need to take that on notice, but it would be in the order of millions of dollars. It is currently administered by the AIS. So the performance committee governs equestrian and high performance reports to the AIS, at the moment, while equestrian is in administration.</p> | Page 114, 27 October |
| SQ20-000485 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Keneally, Kristina | Approvals for service providers by state and territory | <p>Senator KENEALLY: Can you provide the number of approvals made for service providers to charge higher than the maximum amount for accommodation payments determined by the minister?</p> <p>Mr Dicer: Yes, I can. For this year?</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Yes, please.</p> <p>Mr Dicer: In terms of applications we received this year, we approved 308.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Do you have a sense of whether that is a usual number? Was there a variation higher or lower than previous years?</p> <p>Mr Dicer: The previous year was 411. The average will be in the 300 to 400 range. For example, in terms of applications over the five-year period, since I started in the role we've had somewhere between 300 to 400 applications. There was a year when I first started where applications were</p> | Page 78-79 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>quite a number, but that was because the first four-year period had lapsed. Approvals last for four years, so at the end of the four years, you need to get a renewal.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: Mr Dicer, when did you start in the role?</p> <p>Mr Dicer: I started on 21 May 2018.</p> <p>Senator KENEALLY: In relation to the 380—I'm happy for you to take it on notice—can they be provided by state and territory? Is that possible?</p> <p>Mr Dicer: Yes.</p> | |
| SQ20-000486 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Number of people benefitting from CHSP budget measure | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can I go to the CHSP budget measure, the allocation of the additional \$71.4 million? How many people are you estimating will benefit from the measure?</p> <p>Dr Hartland: We've set aside some funds. I don't have, in my notes, the estimate of the number of people that drove that 71,000, I'm sorry. At the moment there are 46 former residents who are now accessing those funds and living in the community.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: There are 46 residents, did you say?</p> <p>Dr Hartland: Currently, yes. They're ex-residents, actually, because, by nature of the measure, they're back in the community.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That's coming out of the \$71.4 million?</p> <p>Dr Hartland: That's right.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Okay. They're not going to use \$71.4 million, are they?</p> <p>Dr Hartland: Not those 46, no.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I'm trying to work out how you estimated and allocated that amount of money.</p> <p>Dr Hartland: This and the number of COVID costings were done with not a full set of information, because it was highly unusual circumstances. In a couple of areas we've been, what you'd call, cautious with our costings to make sure that we had enough resources, given the uncertainty of demand. There would have been a number underpinning—I read my brief in detail and I know it's not in there. I don't have it with me, but we can provide it. The \$71 million is for the full financial year. Where we end up, in relation to the \$71 million, I think is a bit early to tell. But there are 46 people currently benefitting from it.</p> | Page 83, 27 October |
| SQ20-000487 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Home care support for residents during COVID | <p>Senator SIEWERT: In terms of how quickly they are able to access the packages, is there a time lag from when they move out?</p> <p>Dr Hartland: It hasn't been brought to my attention that there is a timing problem with them</p> | Page 84, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>moving out. There would need to be discussion. You would need to have an understanding of the care needs from the facilities that the family can understand. So it's not immediate. It does take some time, but there is not a lag in terms of the access to funds. We are able to do that quickly. It's more the care planning process that would take time to work through.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Of the 46, how many are in tier 1 and how many in tier 2?</p> <p>Dr Hartland: It is 23 each.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Have people come out and gone back in again?</p> <p>Dr Hartland: Yes, some people have returned.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Of the 46, or are they current?</p> <p>Dr Hartland: That 's a good question. I believe the 46 is the total who have been helped with these measures. Some have already returned to the residential aged care facility.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can you take on notice how many? You obviously can't find it at the moment.</p> | |
| SQ20-000488 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Victorian councils that have ceased providing community care | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Do you know how many Victorian councils have actually ceased providing community care for older Victorians?</p> <p>Dr Hartland: We could get that on notice. The information I have that I can give you now is that, from July to December 2020, we're talking to 32 CHSP providers about novations, but that would be a larger number than just the Victorian councils. That would be a national figure. Given that there are 1,400-odd CHSP providers, that's a pretty small number of providers who are looking to exit the program.</p> | Page 85, 27 October |
| SQ20-000489 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Patrick, Rex | Equestrian officials visiting Japan | <p>Senator PATRICK: It's been indicated to me that a group of high performance officials visited the UK recently, purportedly for the purposes of preparation for the Tokyo Games, but they did not visit any equestrian events. In fact, it was more of a coaching program. Why would that sort of program not have been available in Australia?</p> <p>Mr Conde: I don't know the particulars of that case, but it wouldn't be unusual because horses and, indeed, the riders themselves are often based overseas in this sport because that's where the competition is. So that would not be unusual for the sport of equestrian at Olympic level.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: They did a Facebook post headed 'Preparing for the Podium: High Performance Eventing Camp'. Can I just ask you to have a bit of a look at that and perhaps inquire as to what activities were conducted and, if indeed there was Commonwealth funding being used there, just</p> | Page 115, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>put my mind at ease that the money has been spent properly. Mr Conde: We'll definitely do that.</p> | |
| SQ20-000490 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Recruiting additional aged care staff | <p>Senator McCARTHY: Okay. Ms Anderson, during questioning at the royal commission hearing on 2 September about the regulatory activity of the commission, you stated that you were actively recruiting additional staff. Ms Anderson: That's correct. Senator McCARTHY: It was 40 additional frontline staff, from your evidence. Can you confirm how many of the 40 staff you have appointed since 2 September? Ms Anderson: I will confirm that. We have taken on additional staff. I couldn't be clear about how many have come on since that date, but we have recruited between 15 and 20 additional quality assessors. Senator McCARTHY: Is that part of the 40 that you requested? Ms Anderson: Yes. Senator McCARTHY: So you can definitely say you've got 15 to 20, so you'd still have another 20 staff— Ms Anderson: And we've certainly been recruiting across the commission. We've taken on additional complaints officers and compliance officers. But, if I may, I can come back to you on notice in relation to the specifics of how many have been brought on since that date.</p> | Page 88, 27 October |
| SQ20-000491 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Complaints related to restraints and sanctions | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes, if you could give them to me separately, but my question was: how many of the complaints you had last year, of which I understand there were 8,539 in 2019-20— Ms Anderson: Yes. Senator SIEWERT: resulted in compliance action? I understand what you said about the 51 per cent being complaints. Hence my question: if that's 51 per cent of complaints, is that half of the complaints? That's my point. It's not, is it? Ms Anderson: No. Let me take you another way. The number 8,539—and I haven't double-checked that number, so hopefully you've recorded that. Senator SIEWERT: That's what I wrote down. I apologise if I've got it wrong. Ms Anderson: No, that's right; that's fine. Of the 8,539, there were 2,106 referrals to the quality assessment team. That then resulted in assessment performance in 684 instances. Then a subset of those—if you want to travel it through the Russian dolls—239, resulted in decisions of new</p> | Page 92-93 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>noncompliance. So we have reached a view, based partly at least on a complaint transferring within the commission, that there is noncompliance with the standards, and then a subset of those resulted in a sanction action.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Okay. Can you take on notice what those sanction actions were?</p> <p>Ms Anderson: Happy to.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. Can I go to how many of those complaints were related to constraints.</p> <p>Ms Anderson: To?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: To chemical or physical restraints. I think I said 'constraints'; I meant 'restraints'.</p> <p>Ms Anderson: In 2019-20, the full financial year, there were 55 issues. A complaint has a number of issues, so I'm giving you issues now, rather than the single complaint. There were 55 issues raised in relation to physical restraint and 84 issues in relation to chemical restraint. That represented a very low percentage of total issues, less than one per cent of total issues.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes, but it is an increase on the numbers you've given me on notice previously.</p> <p>Ms Anderson: That is correct.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: It's a significant increase.</p> <p>Ms Anderson: It's certainly an increase on the prior year. We obviously only have a very small amount of 2020-21 data available.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: How many of those were related to some form of performance assessment or compliance and then sanction?</p> <p>Ms Anderson: May I take that on notice, please?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes. If you could, that would be appreciated.</p> | |
| SQ20-000492 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Patrick, Rex | High performance program and funds being used | <p>Senator PATRICK: Another area where I've got some questions is this. My understanding is they have engaged a high-performance consultant in charge of the high-performance program as opposed to an in-house arrangement. I just wondered if you could have a look at that to make sure that was properly done. They don't tender, do they? But were there value-for-money checks if Commonwealth money is indeed being used?</p> <p>Mr Conde: I can respond to that. I think we get absolutely outstanding value for money from that individual who performs that role. Literally I don't know how he does it for the amount of time he gets paid for. I didn't know Mr Webb before I took on this role, but I've been incredibly impressed</p> | Page 115, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>with what he has been able to achieve in that role. He effectively gets paid for about one day a week, and it looks to me like he does the work of a full-time employee, to be perfectly honest. He does a brilliant job.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I didn't mean to in any way suggest that he didn't. It was a value-for-money question. You can be really good at your job and get paid beyond the market rate. I just ask that you check that and make sure everything is in order.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I will do that officially and come back to you. I am extremely confident that it would be, because we look at those sorts of things routinely.</p> | |
| SQ20-000493 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Missing table for infection control monitoring spot checks | <p>Senator McCARTHY: Each of the reports since 11 September has a different approach to the information included under the infection control audits heading. The first report included a table outlining the number of visits and the dates those visits commenced by state and territory.</p> <p>Ms Anderson: Sorry, Senator, you have me at disadvantage. I'm not sure that we adjusted our reporting frame, although I know we have had discussions about the best way of presenting information.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Yes, but we're both on the same page in terms of 11 September and this report. This is important, because the table then disappeared in the second, third, fourth and fifth report. In the sixth report, dated 16 October, another table appears but with a different set of information and data.</p> <p>Ms Anderson: I'm going to have to come back to you on that. I'm sorry, I really don't believe there was any intent to deny access to information. It may have been we were debating the best way of presenting it. I'm happy to come back to you with further advice.</p> | Page 94, 27 October |
| SQ20-000494 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Mr Wylie term ending | <p>Senator FARRELL: When did you know Mr Wylie's term was going to end on 5 November?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Mr Wylie wrote to me—I'll have to take the exact date on notice, but I think it was late August or early September—formally indicating to me that he wouldn't be seeking a further term as chair.</p> | Page 121, 27 October |
| SQ20-000495 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Staff adherence to PPE protocol | <p>Senator McCARTHY: It's great you're able to assist. Maybe you can assist with this next question. If I can take you back to the first report and the data table that was included under the heading 'infection control audits', what can this committee understand about the 448 visits in that? What was uncovered? What did the commission staff observe? Were staff management and visitors adhering to safe PPE protocols and safe infection control arrangements?</p> | Page 94-95 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator Colbeck: There was in some of the information that I've seen an indication of the number of facilities that required a follow-up. I don't have the data with me but I'm happy to get that for you. It was one of the things that I wanted to ensure. I had this conversation particularly with my colleague in Victoria Minister Donnellan. He was also curious to ensure that there was a closing of the loop, if you like, if there was a deficiency found, whether it was the state doing the inspection, the ADF doing the inspection or the quality and safety commission doing the inspection, and that there was a follow-up to ensure that the requirements that we expected were being met. It was a closing of the loop process. I'll chase that information for you because it was one of the questions I was asking. Again, it was a conversation I had a number of times with my Victorian colleague Minister Donnellan. He was asking the same questions. They were some of the things that were part of the data. I'm happy to follow that up for you.</p> | |
| SQ20-000496 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Types of complaints raised | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. Ms Anderson, could I quickly go back to the complaints about chemical and physical restraints and check on the number of actions that have been taken around the complaints regarding the use of chemical and physical restraints.</p> <p>Ms Anderson: I recall taking it on notice. I did give you the number of issues, but I don't have information to hand in relation to whether any of them directly resulted in—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Okay. I've got the numbers. Can you tell me the types of issues that were raised in the complaints?</p> <p>Ms Anderson: It's just a subject heading. I can certainly provide more information on notice.</p> | Page 97-98 27 October |
| SQ20-000497 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Draft business case on the AFR article | <p>Senator FARRELL: Work on this proposal has been going on for years. I think the first time I ever asked questions on this was in 2016. There was a draft business case prepared by the department in the lead up to the 2019 election, was there not?</p> <p>Mr McCann: There has certainly been material prepared for the consideration of government. I wouldn't say it was a normal cabinet consideration document. I would say it was a draft business case.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: So you dispute that categorisation?</p> <p>Mr McCann: It was a budget submission. I'm not exactly sure of the name of the submission itself. I'd have to go back and check. But certainly it has been considered—</p> | Page 124, 27 October |

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| SQ20-000498 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Female Facilities and Water Safety Stream – Funding provided | <p>Senator FARRELL: I'd like to ask some questions about the female facilities and water safety stream. How much funding for the female facilities and water safety stream has been provided?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: The female facilities and water safety stream program involved the transfer to the Department of Health of \$150 million from the Department of Infrastructure, transport and regional development initially with 47 election commitment grants totalling \$139.23 million. After it was transferred to the Department of Health, there was a process of due diligence and some projects were transferred into a different program that was more suitable. That left 41 grants totalling \$131.73 million. Of those 41 projects, 27 are for community sporting facilities and 14 are for pools or aquatic centres. As at 25 September, 28 of the 41 project agreements have been executed, totalling \$26.77 million. I have a later figure that came just today: as of 26 October—was that yesterday?—30 project agreements have been executed, at a total of \$43.07 million.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: You obviously have that written down there. Is it possible to get—</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I have scribbled over everything, as I do, but I could provide it on notice.</p> | Page 124, 27 October |
| SQ20-000499 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Draft recommendations from the royal commission | <p>Senator SIEWERT: I should clarify my question: the comment that was made by the commission yesterday was in relation to aged care rather than their use and therapeutic purposes.</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Again, I've read a bit recently, but my recollection is that the draft recommendation from the royal commission talked about adopting a similar approach as that being used in the NDIS. That's the draft recommendation, and obviously we'll be considering the recommendations from the royal commission when they're handed down in four months.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Have you been looking at getting feedback on how the use of the new regulations is going?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I have asked some questions on it, but, given all of the other overlay that we've had, particularly with COVID, it's been quite difficult to get any data. If there is any data available, I'm happy to provide it to the committee on notice.</p> | Page 98, 27 October |
| SQ20-000500 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Female Facilities and Water Safety Stream – Identified projects | <p>Senator FARRELL: So there is some money there that you could give to the clubs that missed out on the sporting—</p> <p>Ms Edwards: It would be a matter for government how that money is—</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes, I'm sure it is. But there is, in round figures, \$20 million that the minister could—</p> <p>Ms Edwards: It's \$18.27 million.</p> | Page 125, 27 October |

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| | | | | <p>Senator FARRELL: Well, that's a very accurate figure. Are you able to provide us with who's getting those grants?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: Yes, on notice we will.</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I think it's been supplied.</p> <p>Ms Edwards: I'm sure it has already.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Has it? Okay.</p> | |
| SQ20-000501 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Balance between emotional wellbeing and safety for aged care residents | <p>Senator SIEWERT: I have two very short bits, I'm hoping, that I want to ask about now. One is going very quickly back to issues around visiting in residential aged-care homes. This is to you, Ms Anderson: are you monitoring that under the compliance framework around the industry code?</p> <p>Ms Anderson: Yes. As part of our routine regulatory monitoring, we certainly ask questions about that and also, as we've also discussed, monitor if families are concerned about that through our complaints channel. A number of them have been. They've come to us and said, 'They're not letting us in,' or, 'We're having to negotiate every single visit; can you assist?' We have a genuine concern that this seems unnecessarily strict. We obviously look to the state and territory public health order and what the circumstance in that locality is, and then we have a conversation with the provider. In the vast majority of cases, we are successful in resolving the matter in terms of that family's access to their loved one in care.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Without having to take an actual compliance action; it's—</p> <p>Ms Anderson: Exactly.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: more a mediation-type process.</p> <p>Ms Anderson: If I may, just quickly, we're looking to reflect some of that back to the sector. I've had discussions with my senior team in the ten days. We are looking to gather some of that intelligence that we've developed over time and reflect it back out as insights from the regulator back to the sector as another prompt for providers to look very carefully at their current settings to understand the risks of keeping residents safe on the one hand but ensuring their emotional wellbeing on the other—getting those in the right balance to ensure that family members can access their loved ones in care without placing anyone at risk.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Would you be able to provide an example that type of advice that you reflect back?</p> <p>Ms Anderson: Yes—happy to.</p> | Page 101-102 27 October |

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| SQ20-000502 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Funding for Sporting Schools | <p>Senator FARRELL: The budget included \$39.6 million over two years from 2021 for Sporting Schools. Does that take the total spending on the program to \$280 million?</p> <p>Mr Dalton: I don't have that number with me but we can take that on notice.</p> | Page 126, 27 October |
| SQ20-000503 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Fox sports grant | <p>Senator FARRELL: Minister, I refer to the grant of \$10 million to Fox Sports without a competitive tender process, which you announced with Minister Fletcher on 22 July. The department has confirmed that this grant was made following Minister Fletcher's receipt of a letter from Foxtel on 16 April 2020. When did you first become aware of the idea of granting a further \$10 million to Fox Sports in 2020?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I'd have to take on notice when I was advised of that. I'm happy to provide that information to you on notice.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Alright. You might have to take this question on notice as well. Was it soon after the minister receive the letter from Foxtel?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: You're correct in your assumption. I don't know when Minister Ley received the letter, so I can't make that connection.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Oh, correct in my assumption that you may have to take it on notice?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Yes.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Okay. Same with this one: when you found out, was a submission being prepared for ERC and cabinet, was it during an ERC and cabinet consideration or was it after cabinet approve the grant to Foxtel?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: I think there are three dittos there.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Okay. And was it during the preparation of the draft media release for the July announcement?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: Fourth ditto.</p> <p>Senator FARRELL: Yes. According to documents obtained under freedom of information on 17 July 2020, only days before the announcement, an email went from someone with an email address ending in @communications.gov.au to someone with an email address ending in @health.gov.au, which said, 'Would be great to have Minister Colbeck included on the releases.' Was July the earliest that you were contacted for input?</p> | Page 129-130 27 October |

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| SQ20-000504 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Infection control training recommendation | <p>Senator McCARTHY: Recommendation 6 is infection control training. The sixth and final recommendation is that the government should deploy accredited infection prevention and control experts into aged-care homes to provide training, assist with outbreak, provide management training. How many infection, prevention and control experts has the government deployed since you accepted this recommendation on 1 October?</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: That's the work that I was talking about with you a moment ago that we're negotiating with the states, so—</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: You haven't got a figure though, in terms of—</p> <p>Senator Colbeck: There have been quite a number of pieces of work done with respect to infection control. Inspections by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission—we had inspections and support through Victoria through the ADF and some of our groups that were working with through the height of the second wave in Victoria. There have been inspections by state public health authorities into residential aged-care facilities over a period of time. I can provide you with the data on those. In fact, we publish that information weekly. With respect to the number of inspections that we've had, the recommendation was that we deploy additional skills. We're negotiating with the states to provide that skill upgrade in accordance with the standards, as I said to you before, that the AHPPC Aged Care Advisory Group is determining what the qualification needs to be, and we're working with the states to help us deliver that. As I said to you before, most of the higher-level qualifications—I think there's a limited number of them; about 60, for example, high-level infection control experts in the country—so that we can transfer that knowledge out into the residential aged-care sector. We're negotiating with the states on that process now, and we will report that—</p> | Page 66-67 27 October |
| SQ20-000505 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Youth taskforce work plan | <p>Senator McCARTHY: But are there any resource or plans in place to coordinate youth issues after this year?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: Not as yet.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: Are you able to table the youth taskforce work plan?</p> <p>Ms Flynn: We'll take that one on notice. We do have a rather large project plan.</p> <p>Senator McCARTHY: What's the issue with you just tabling it?</p> <p>Ms Edwards: We probably can table it; we'll just have to review it to check if there is any personal</p> | Page 88, 26 October |

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| | | | | or sensitive information. Senator McCARTHY: Alright. Thanks. | |
| SQ20-000506 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Whish-Wilson, Peter | Public consultations with key stakeholders | The Scoping Paper on the Review of the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991 states that public consultation with key stakeholders has been occurring since July 2020. Please provide a list of all key stakeholders that have been consulted. How were these stakeholders identified? Were all the stakeholders that registered an interest in consultation consulted? If not, on what basis was this decision made? | Written |
| SQ20-000507 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Carr, Kim | Long term storage | "The Lucas Heights site is not actually able to be a disposal site; that is part of the ANSTO Act. The site that is currently being looked at for the national radioactive waste management facility will be a disposal site for low-level waste. That cannot be Lucas Heights under the current legislation. World's best practice establishes that long-term storage is not an option; you must have a disposal pathway." "The waste as it is currently stored is safe. ARPANSA has regulated it for many years. We have no concerns over the current safety of the storage of the waste at Lucas Heights. However, I reiterate that it cannot be disposed of at the Lucas Heights site. The search for a national facility is part of world's best practice in establishing a disposal pathway." Mr Jim Scott, Chief Regulatory Officer, Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency, Hansard Economics References Committee - Selection process for a national radioactive waste management facility in South Australia, 02/08/2018 • Does ARPANSA still agree with this evidence? | Written |
| SQ20-000508 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Carr, Kim | Evidence provided by ANSTO | "The facility (Lucas Heights) is not developed for long-term storage of either low-level waste or intermediate-level waste. It is ANSTO's view, which we think is important in the context of the international setting, to follow the international best practice, which is to have a dedicated and final low-level waste disposal facility." "if the regulator became concerned that Australia as a nation did not want to progress an intermediate-level waste store that was available not just to ANSTO but also to the other intermediate-level waste holders around the country, the regulator might become concerned that Australia has no intention of dealing with its intermediate-level waste in a responsible way. That would not be a good thing." | Written |

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| | | | | <p>"The interim storage that the regulator has granted us is predicated on our government having a policy of having a storage solution available nationally. I would say that all things are possible—it could be stored in all sorts of places—but the ideal thing is to have a strategy to have, according to the National Radioactive Waste Management Act, a capacity in the country to do it."</p> <p>Dr Adi Patterson, CEO ANSTO, Hansard Economics References Committee - Selection process for a national radioactive waste management facility in South Australia, 02/08/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does ARPANSA agree with this evidence put forward by ANSTO? | |
| SQ20-000509 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Faruqi, Mehreen | Specialist Homelessness Services Collection data | <p>1) Please provide a monthly national and state-by-state breakdown of people seeking and receiving assistance from SHS providers from January 2019 to September 2020 (or October 2020 if available) by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number of people seeking assistance; • Total number of clients receiving SHS support; • Total number of unassisted persons; • Reasons for no assistance being provided; • Age (in as much detail as possible); • Gender; • Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander identity; • Country of birth; • Educational enrolment status; • Employment status; • Receipt of government social security payments (broken down by payment type); • Prior diagnosis of a mental health issue; • Clients with an NDIS plan; • Clients under 18 subject to a child protection order (NSW) and other state & territory equivalents; • Veterans/defence force personnel; • Most recent LGA, health district and/or postcode of residence; • Average length of support period; • Form of accommodation support (ie crisis, transitional, hotel accommodation); • The number of people presenting as homeless/living in unconventional accommodation in the week before presenting (crisis, sleeping rough, couch-surfing, etc); | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of people presenting as homeless/ living in unconventional accommodation in the month before presenting (crisis, sleeping rough, couch-surfing, etc); • The number of people presenting as homeless/living in unconventional accommodation in the year before presenting (crisis, sleeping rough, couch-surfing); • Condition of occupancy prior to presenting (eg private rental, public housing, living with family rent-free or otherwise, caravan park, boarding house, etc); • Type of assistance provided (eg accommodation support, assistance to sustain tenure, mental health/disability/family/AOD/immigration/cultural services, legal/financial/DFV/general services, other specialist services, etc); • Reasons for seeking assistance (including Covid-19 where data is available); and • Main reasons for seeking assistance. <p>2) Please also provide data on recurrent episodes of homelessness. This could be calculable by subtracting the total number of distinct support periods from the total number of support periods reported, though it is noted that this won't be a completely accurate picture of a headcount due to the nature of the data aggregation.</p> <p>3) Please also provide a national and state-by state breakdown of the data requested in questions 1) and 2) for the 2017-2018, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 financial years.</p> <p>4) Please provide a list of all Specialist Homelessness Services which report to the SHSC, and if possible note the services in receipt of funding under the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement.</p> | |
| SQ20-000510 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Waters, Larissa | Telehealth extended | <p>Telehealth services have been extended to March 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you confirm whether the extension of telehealth applies to early medical abortion and consultation and treatment relating to sexually transmitted diseases? • Has the Department done any analysis of the impact of the restrictions imposed from July 2020 to limit eligibility for telehealth to existing patients of a GP on the number or location of people seeking access to early medical abortion? • Are those restrictions being reconsidered? | Written |
| SQ20-000511 | 4 - Individual | Waters, Larissa | Abortion services direct to women | <p>The NHMRC's Centre of Research Excellence in Sexual and Reproductive Health for Women in Primary Care has recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A national hotline similar to the Victorian 1800 My Options service to direct women to local | Written |

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| | Health Benefits | | | <p>abortion service providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and PBS provisions to enable mifepristone and misoprostol to be prescribed to up to 70 days' gestation (up from 63), in line with international practice. <p>Is the Department considering those options?</p> | |
| SQ20-000512 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Waters, Larissa | Provision of sexual and reproductive health services for women during COVID | What lessons did the Department learn during COVID regarding the provision of access to sexual and reproductive health services for women, and how service delivery can be improved? | Written |
| SQ20-000513 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Waters, Larissa | Maternity services during COVID | <p>Despite the 2019 Woman Centred Care- Strategic Approach to Maternity Services commitment to community-based care, many maternity consumers reported their local maternity services reduced access to community-based care, physiological birth support, water birth, continuity of midwifery carer during Covid.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did the Department or the Minister provide any directive to practitioners to adhere to the national maternity plan during Covid? • What work is being done to ensure compliance with the national maternity plan? | Written |
| SQ20-000514 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Waters, Larissa | Homebirth services during COVID | <p>There has reportedly been a significant increase in interest in home birth during Covid.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What support has the government offered to facilitate greater access to home births? • Why were homebirth services not included in the services given temporary access to MBS, despite the recommendation by the MBS Review of Participating Midwives? • Has any analysis been undertaken of whether there has been an increase in 'freebirths' (i.e home births without a health professional in attendance) during Covid? | Written |
| SQ20-000515 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Waters, Larissa | MBS Review of Participating Midwives | What progress has been made to finalise the MBS Review of Participating Midwives? | Written |
| SQ20-000516 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Prime Minister Cyber Security Campaign - Enhancement of networks | <p>On Friday 19th June 2020 the Prime Minister held a press conference to tell the nation that a "sophisticated state-based cyber actor" was "targeting Australian organisations across a range of sectors including all levels of government, industry, political organisations, education, health, essential service providers and operators of other critical infrastructure."</p> <p>He further indicated that the purpose of this press conference was to "raise awareness of these</p> | Written |

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| | | | | <p>specific risks and targeted activities and tell you how you can take action to protect yourself... It is vital that Australian organisations are alert to this threat and take steps to enhance the resilience of their networks."</p> <p>What steps did the Department/Commonwealth Entity take 'to enhance the resilience of their networks' after the Prime Minister's warning?</p> <p>The Prime Minister's media release about this state sponsored campaign encouraged organisations to "take expert advice, and implement technical defences to thwart this malicious cyber activity."</p> <p>Were any additional technical defences implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister?</p> <p>Were any additional controls or mitigations implemented within the Department/Commonwealth Entity to enhance the resilience of its networks in the face of the specific threat identified by the Prime Minister?</p> | |
| SQ20-000517 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Prime Minister Cyber Security Campaign - Training and communications | <p>Was any new staff training initiated to enhance resilience against any phishing attacks targeting staff that may accompany this state sponsored campaign?</p> <p>If so, please provide them to the committee.</p> <p>Were any internal communications prepared for staff about the threat of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference and what staff could do to maximise the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks? If so, please provide them to the committee.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000518 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Prime Minister Cyber Security Campaign - Addition funding and advice | <p>Was any additional funding allocated to support additional technical defences, controls, mitigations or training within the Department/Commonwealth Entity in response to the Prime Minister's press conference?</p> <p>Was advice sought from the Australian Signals Directorate about the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000519 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Prime Minister Cyber Security Campaign - Ministerial briefing | <p>Was the Minister briefed on the cyber resilience of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference?</p> <p>Was the Minister briefed on any additional steps to enhance the resilience of the</p> | Written |

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| | | | | Department/Commonwealth Entity's networks needed in the face of the state sponsored campaign identified by the Prime Minister in his June 19th 2020 press conference? | |
| SQ20-000520 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Prime Minister Cyber Security Campaign - Compliance | Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity compliant with the Australian Signals Directorate's 'Top Four' mitigations as mandated under the Protective Security Policy Framework? Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity compliant with the Australian Signals Directorate's 'Essential Eight' mitigations as recommended under the Protective Security Policy Framework? | Written |
| SQ20-000521 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Prime Minister Cyber Security Campaign - Spending | What was the Department/Commonwealth Entity's total spend on the cyber security of its networks during the 2019-2020 financial year? What is the cyber security spend as a proportion of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's total IT spend? What is the Department/Commonwealth Entity's forecast total spend on the cyber security of its networks during the 2020-2021 financial year? Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity's total spend on cyber security increased proportionately to the increased threat identified in the Prime Minister's press conference? | Written |
| SQ20-000522 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Prime Minister Cyber Security Campaign - 10-year investment | On Tuesday 30th June 2020, the Government announced a \$1.35 billion 10-year investment in cyber security. Was any of this funding allocated to the Department/Commonwealth Entity in order to take steps to enhance the cyber resilience of its own networks in the face of the specific threats identified by the Prime Minister in his press conference on 19 June 2020? | Written |
| SQ20-000523 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Prime Minister Cyber Security Campaign - Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance | Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity fully implemented Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) on its email domains? Does the full implementation of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance (DMARC) provide the most effective email domain mitigation against the threat of phishing emails? Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity worked with the Australian Cyber Security Centre to progress its implementation of DMARC? Has the Department/Commonwealth Entity received an appropriation for the implementation of DMARC? | Written |
| SQ20-000524 | 5 - Regulation, | Carr, Kim | Intermediate-level waste disposal | "The letter (from the then Deputy Prime Minister) was after I made clear my view that the continued generation of intermediate-level waste at ANSTO poses a problem in the end with regard | Written |

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| | Safety and Protection | | | <p>to the storage, and in particular the ultimate disposal, of the intermediate-level waste. At that point in time, there wasn't a documented commitment to establish a disposal facility for the intermediate-level waste that I could point to. That has been provided. I got reassurances in that letter. I also note that, in the Australian National Radioactive Waste Management Framework that is being enshrined, it's very satisfying to see the commitment, of course, to a disposal facility also for the intermediate-level waste."</p> <p>Dr Larsson, Hansard, Economics Legislation Committee, 30/06/2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does ARPANSA still agree with this evidence? | |
| SQ20-000525 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Carr, Kim | Hospital waste | <p>"Yes. There's a large amount of hospital waste. Typically, hospitals have had sources that are used historically for treatment. They have other sources that are shorter term in nature that are to do with other forms of therapy. And they generate waste during the course of, for example, treating patients who receive nuclear medicines either for diagnostic or for therapeutic purposes. There are many hospitals across Australia—in fact, probably a couple of times a year we assist hospitals to think through and manage their wastes—the decommissioning of buildings, for example."</p> <p>Dr Patterson, Hansard, Economics Legislation Committee, 01/03/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does ARPANSA agree with this evidence put forward by ANSTO? | Written |
| SQ20-000526 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Carr, Kim | Guidelines on the registration of conflicts of interests | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When were the NHMRC guidelines on the registration of conflicts of interests last published? • When were the NHMRC guidelines on the registration of conflicts of interests last reviewed? • Has the NHMRC been asked by government to review the guidelines on the registration of conflicts of interests? • Has the NHMRC been asked to streamline its guidelines on the registration of conflicts of interests with the changes that have been made to the same guidelines at the ARC? • Is it a requirement of the NHMRC Act 1992 for there to be registration of conflicts of interests? If so, what does the Act specify? | Written |
| SQ20-000527 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Backlog of elective surgery and health appointments | <p>How will the government support the public health system to deal with the backlog of elective surgery and health appointments? Will they provide additional funding?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000528 | 2 - Health Access and | Siewert, Rachel | Cannabidiol dosage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the evidence base that the Department has relied upon to establish that a dose of 60 mg/day of cannabidiol is efficacious? In what conditions has the Department established that this | Written |

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| | Support Services | | | dose (or less) is efficacious? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who made the decision that the Department would pursue this low dose, and why? • Who proposed this dose as an acceptable maximum dose for a Schedule 3 listing? | |
| SQ20-000529 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Mental Health Clinics in Victoria | In regards to the \$26.9 million budgeted to establish 15 enhanced mental health clinics in Victoria, please outline: a) How many staff are being funded per site? How did you decide this? b) How did you decide how much funding each hub would receive? c) How long are the 15 hubs funded for? d) Will the program be evaluated? e) Will this model be rolled out in other states? | Written |
| SQ20-000530 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Rice, Janet | Conflicting advice on guidelines to Sport Australia | From Select Committee Hansard - evidence from Mr McCann, Sport Australia: On 11 May, subsequent to some initial discussions around the development of the guidelines, we received a draft version of the guidelines from the Department of Health that were largely based on a template from the Department of Finance. There was further conversation and drafting internally. We then provided a version of that to the Department of Health later in May, on the 24th. It came back again on 31 May. There were further discussions between 31 May and 6 June. It also went through to 4 July, where program guidelines were reaffirmed again. I'm just reading a timeline here. They don't step out every conversation and meeting, but it's certainly a process between 11 May through to July. From a DoH QoN: "The Department of Health did not provide a copy of the guidelines (nor any related advice) to Sport Australia on 31 May 2018." Given the conflicting evidence from Sport Australia and the Department of Health in relation to the advice provided on 31 May 2018, which is correct? What information did the Department of Health provide on 31 May 2018 in relation to the CSI guidelines? | Written |
| SQ20-000531 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Headspace sites | Can you provide an update on how many Headspace sites are now funded and operating? | Written |
| SQ20-000532 | 5 - Regulation, | Carr, Kim | Permanent disposal of low level waste | Answer to question on notice (AI-93) which the department took from Senator Hanson-Young at Estimates on 16 March 2020 says: | Written |

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| | Safety and Protection | | | <p>Answer: "Currently waste is spread over 100 storage facilities across Australia which has built up over about 70 years. The National Radioactive Waste Management Facility (NRWMF) will provide for the permanent disposal of low level waste (LLW) and the temporary storage of intermediate level waste (ILW) into a single, safe, purpose built facility."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does ARPANSA agree with this evidence put forward by the Department? | |
| SQ20-000533 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Carr, Kim | Management of nuclear waste | Is it world's best practice to build a national facility to manage our nuclear waste? | Written |
| SQ20-000534 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Framework for evaluating the new eating disorder MBS items | QoN SQ20-000055 previously noted that a framework for evaluating the new eating disorder MBS items was being established. Can you provide an update on this process and when the evaluation will occur? | Written |
| SQ20-000535 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Credentialing process for the new eating disorder MBS items | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you provide an update on the status of the credentialing process for the new eating disorder MBS items? • Has consultation with stakeholders occurred, and if so which stakeholders did the NEDC and ANZAED consult during the development of the credentialing process? | Written |
| SQ20-000536 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Accessibility and quality of mental health services in rural and remote Australia | What work is the Department doing in response to Recommendation 5 from the inquiry into the accessibility and quality of mental health services in rural and remote Australia to develop longer minimum contract lengths for mental health services in rural, remote and regional areas? | Written |
| SQ20-000537 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Information Security Manual guidance | Does the Information Security Manual guidance for email gateways and servers recommend "DMARC records are configured for all domains such that emails are rejected if they fail SPF or DKIM checks"? | Written |
| SQ20-000538 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Rice, Janet | Data on amount spent to fund deferrable medical interventions | <p>The Darlington Statement by intersex organisations and independent advocates in March 2017 states that: "We call for the immediate prohibition as a criminal act of deferrable medical interventions, including surgical and hormonal interventions, that alter the sex characteristics of infants and children without personal consent. We call for freely-given and fully informed consent by individuals, with individuals and families having mandatory independent access to funded counselling and peer support."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the Department or the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare have any data on the | Written |

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| | | | | <p>amount spent to fund deferrable medical interventions on intersex children?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o If yes - what data do you have? Who is it collected from? Where is it reported? o If no - why not? | |
| SQ20-000539 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Evaluations for mental health services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When are the evaluations for mental health services being provided to people in residential aged care due to be completed? • How will the data collected in these evaluations inform future planning around mental health services for older Australians in residential aged care? | Written |
| SQ20-000540 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies | <p>The ACSC's "Malicious Email Mitigation Strategies" provides that "Socially engineered emails containing malicious attachments and embedded links are routinely used in targeted cyber intrusions against organisations."</p> <p>Is the Department/Commonwealth Entity concerned that the low levels of DMARC implementation within Commonwealth government departments revealed by Proofpoint leaves Australians unnecessarily vulnerable to phishing campaigns spoofing Commonwealth government agency domains?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000541 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Cyber security training | <p>Have APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity received cyber security training?</p> <p>How many APS staff in the Department/Commonwealth Entity have attended in person cyber security training sessions?</p> <p>Who administers and conducts this training?</p> <p>Does the Department/Commonwealth Entity have a target for the proportion of active users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network that have completed in-person cyber security training sessions?</p> <p>Has consideration been given to making cyber security training mandatory for users of the Department/Commonwealth Entity's Network?</p> <p>- If so, what was the outcome of those considerations?</p> <p>What other forms of cyber security training does the Department/Commonwealth Entity provide?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000542 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Workforce Incentive Program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can the Department provide assurances that the Workforce Incentive Program is effective, if so please provide details? • Can the Department provide the following information for the Workforce Incentive Program for the past five years broken down by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total expenditure | Written |

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| | | | | -Uptake of practices (GPs and/or practices) -Distribution of recipients and funding by Modified Monash Model classification | |
| SQ20-000544 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Funding to expand the capabilities of the departments public health workforce | What additional/new funding (ie: not funds reallocated from other activities) have been provided to the Department of Health to expand the capabilities of the department's public health workforce? | Written |
| SQ20-000545 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | expansion of positions and workforce capabilities | What actual expansion of positions and workforce capabilities has occurred within the Department of Health? | Written |
| SQ20-000546 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Stoker, Amanda | AHPRA Social Media Guidance | <p>The AHPRA Social Media Guidance "The Guidelines" published last year state in the section titled 'Cultural awareness, safety and practitioner and patient beliefs – social and clinical' says: "As a registered health practitioner, your views on clinical issues are influential. Comments in social media that reflect or promote personal views about social and clinical issues might impact on someone's sense of cultural safety or could lead to a patient/client feeling judged, intimidated or embarrassed."</p> <p>It goes on to say under 'What are the common pitfalls when using social media?': "When using social media, just as with all aspects of professional conduct and behaviour, you need to be aware of your professional obligations and other relevant legislation, such as privacy legislation. Where relevant, National Boards may consider social media use in your private life (even where there is no identifiable link to you as a registered health practitioner) if it raises concerns about your fitness to hold registration."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o How is offence caused by 'cultural safety or could lead to a patient/client feeling judged, intimidated or embarrassed' defined? o How is this offence or 'cultural safety or could lead to a patient/client feeling judged, intimidated or embarrassed' measured? o When was it decided that views on political and social issues are part of the definition of 'clinical issues'? o Who made that decision? o If it was made in writing, please provide a copy. o What threshold of 'cultural safety or could lead to a patient/client feeling judged, intimidated or | Written |

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| | | | | <p>embarrassed', or offence caused results in disciplinary action?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o What form of disciplinary action would be taken against a registered health practitioner who is taken to have offended someone or has had a complaint made against them? o Is it necessary to prove actual offence, or merely does the act of someone making a complaint call for disciplinary action to be applied? o How is this approach reconciled with fundamental human rights of freedom of expression and religious freedom? o When did AHPRA decide that the right of an individual to never be offended should take precedence over another individual's right to freedom of expression? -On what advice? -If the decision was made in writing please provide a copy. -Who specifically made the decision? o When did AHPRA decide that the right of a person to earn a living, including as a registered health practitioner, trumps their right to freedom of expression? o On what advice? o If the decision was made in writing please provide a copy. o Who specifically made the decision? <p>The Guidelines say: "Where relevant, National Boards may consider social media use in your private life (even where there is no identifiable link to you as a registered health practitioner) if it raises concerns about your fitness to hold registration."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o How is 'fitness to hold registration' determined? o What protections are afforded to a registered health practitioner if a complaint is made? o What protections exist for complaints made that touch on private beliefs, including religious beliefs, held by a registered health practitioner if they might offend someone or make them feel judged, intimidated or embarrassed? o Does it matter whether the complainant was or was not a patient of the registered health practitioner? o When and precisely who made the decision that a registered health practitioner has no right to freedom of expression of freedom of religion? o If the decision was made in writing, please provide a copy. | |
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| SQ20-000547 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Training for the Commonwealth public health workforce | What new training has been made available for the Commonwealth public health workforce? | Written |
| SQ20-000548 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Commonwealth-provided public health services | In practice, what is the extent of (i) funds allocation and (ii) staff positions which were being deployed on public health activities other than communicable disease control that have occurred since March 2020? Please provide details (in financial and workforce position terms) of any specific Commonwealth-provided public health services and programs that have been either cut, or temporarily reduced in scale, due to staff re-allocations as a result of the response to the pandemic? | Written |
| SQ20-000549 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | programs in place to help older and poorer patients access medicinal cannabis products | The 2019 National Drug Strategy Household Survey found that Australians who were using medicinal cannabis illegally were more likely to be older, to be living in a poor area, and to be living with chronic health conditions. Given how vulnerable these people are, what programs has the government put in place to specifically help older and poorer patients access medicinal cannabis products? | Written |
| SQ20-000550 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | consultation papers for the National Preventive Health Strategy | Why is skin cancer prevention absent from the consultation papers for the National Preventive Health Strategy? | Written |
| SQ20-000551 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Primary Health Reform Steering Group - final advice | When will the department receive final advice from the Primary Health Reform Steering Group and will this be made publicly available? | Written |
| SQ20-000552 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Review of the Radiation Oncology Health Program Grants Scheme | How was Healthcare Management Advisers P/L (HMA) chosen by the DoH to conduct the review of the ROHPG Scheme? When were they appointed? "In regard to the review process itself can the DoH confirm how HMA will be conducting the review. Will HMA be: - Proactively contacting interested stakeholders? - Allowing written submissions from stakeholders? If so, will HMA then be following up with | Written |

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| | | | | <p>stakeholders in regard to their written submission?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting one on one stakeholder consolidations via video chat or phone call only? - Conducting any roundtable consultations with stakeholders?" <p>How much is HMA being paid for the review?</p> <p>Has HMA conducted any previous reviews for the DoH from the period 1 July 2017 until now. If so, what reviews did they conduct?</p> | |
| SQ20-000553 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Voluntary patient enrolment policies interaction with telehealth | How will the future of voluntary patient enrolment policies interact with telehealth? | Written |
| SQ20-000554 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Budget measures for cancers, diabetes, obesity and related illness | Why does the Budget contain so little in respect of new measures to prevent (as opposed to detect and respond to) cancers, diabetes, obesity and its related illnesses, and other non-communicable diseases? | Written |
| SQ20-000555 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Opioid reforms | <p>Has the Department been tracking the impact on consumers of the 1 June Opioid Reforms?</p> <p>Has the government put into place alternative supports and treatments to address gaps in pain management treatment with the new restrictions around opioids?</p> <p>Did the Government consider access to alternative treatments before implementing restrictions to access to opioids for pain relief?</p> <p>Is there a comprehensive evaluation and quality improvement strategy to support the implementation of the opioid reforms?</p> <p>Did the government consider the impact that rapid tapering could have for the safety of people with chronic pain when the 1 June changes came into effect?</p> <p>What has the government done to communicate with health professionals and consumers about these changes?</p> <p>What is the suggested course of action now for consumers finding they are being tapered off opioids?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000556 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Gallagher, Katy | Expenditure on Contractors | <p>Please provide the following figures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Expenditure on all contractors for 2019-20 o Expenditure on all contracts with labour hire firms for 2019-20 o Headcount of staff engaged through labour hire arrangements as at 30 June 2020 | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In total - As a percentage of total staff headcount <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o As a percentage mark-up on the cost of the contractor, the maximum and minimum fees paid to labour hire firms in 2019-20 • Has the agency performed any analysis on whether it costs more to engage staff as contractors compared with hiring staff as employees? If yes, please provide this analysis. • Has the agency engaged any Senior Executive Service or equivalent positions on a contract/labour hire basis? If yes, please provide details. • In relation to contracts for market research: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o How much has been spent to date since 1 January 2020? o How much has been spent since 24 August 2018? o Please provide a table with all contracts entered into since 1 January 2020 along with the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Total contract value -Supplier -If it was approved by the Service Delivery and Coordination Committee | |
| SQ20-000557 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Skin lightening formula medicine | <p>Has the TGA undertaken searches to monitor compliance with the Therapeutic Goods Act and Regulations by Australian companies manufacturing and exporting the Australian licenced medicine L: 295927 with labels identifying it as SKIN LIGHTENING FORMULA?</p> <p>Has the TGA received any complaints about this matter?</p> <p>If so, what steps has the TGA taken in response to those complaints?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000558 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Medicinal cannabis | <p>Noting that approximately 70,000 medicinal cannabis prescriptions have been issued by Australians doctors in the past four years. Please provide a state and territory breakdown of the number of medicinal cannabis prescriptions issued over that period.</p> <p>Noting that more than 6000 medical cannabis prescriptions were issued in Australia in September 2020. Please also provide a state and territory breakdown of the number of medicinal cannabis prescriptions issued in that month.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000560 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Melville Little Athletics Club | <p>Was the Melville Little Athletics Club's application recommended by Sport Australia for a grant?</p> | Written |

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| SQ20-000561 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Applecross Tennis Club | <p>Can you please outline the scope of works to be funded under the \$500,000 grant to the Applecross Tennis Club?</p> <p>Is Sport Australia aware that legal action has now been taken by residents to stop the works at Applecross Tennis Club?</p> <p>Who will be responsible for any legal costs involved in defending this action?</p> <p>Could legal action affect the grant funding to the club?</p> <p>Is the club able to use grant funding to cover the costs of the legal action?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000562 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | CSIG Program | <p>Was any personal, private data, including the names or contact details of any individuals, included in any of the lists or spreadsheets of proposed CSIG recipients Sport Australia provided to the then Minister's office?</p> <p>If so, was any personal, private data spread across multiple columns or contained within one or a small number of columns?</p> <p>Have any applicants to the CSIG program asked Sport Australia for the identity of their organisations to be kept private?</p> <p>Are you aware of any applicants to the CSIG program requesting to be provided with the score out of 100 Sport Australia gave their projects and / or other feedback on their application?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000563 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | High-performance funding | <p>Can you please provide a detailed breakdown of the \$115 million commitment for the 2021-22 financial year to elite athletes, as announced by Minister Colbeck on 28 October 2020, including on what date various funding measures were announced, what specifically the different funding measures are allocated for and where each measure / announcement can be found in Budget papers?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000564 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Aged Care Stakeholder Workshop | <p>Can the Department confirm when a decision was made to hold a workshop with aged care stakeholders on 6 March, 2019? Can the Department confirm if the decision to hold a workshop was made by it, the Government or by lobbying from the aged care sector?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000565 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Hockey WA funding | <p>Hockey WA has raised concerns regarding possible plans to reduce funding for hockey – what are hockey's investment allocations for 2020/21 and 2021/22?</p> <p>Are those allocations less than the amount provided in 2019/20 and, if so, why?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000566 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Visa issues for coaches | <p>Was Sport Australia or the AIS consulted or advised by the federal government before changes to the categorisation of coaches under Australia's visa system?</p> <p>Have any coaches who were working in Australia left or been told they will need to leave as a result</p> | Written |

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| | | | | <p>of the visa changes? If so, which NSOs were those coaches working for?</p> <p>Have any coaches who had been employed by Australian NSOs but were yet to arrive in Australia been told they will no longer be able to work in Australia because of the visa changes? If so, which NSOs were those coaches intending to work for?</p> | |
| SQ20-000567 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Aged Care Funding COVID-19 | <p>How much of the \$101.2 million for the below measures announced in March has now been spent? Please provide the amount of funding that has been allocated for each of the measures below and how much is yet to be spent and why the funding, if any, has not been spent to date?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upskilling aged care workers in coronavirus infection control. • Boosting staff numbers, support and training for residential care homes where an urgent health response is required. • A telehealth consultation service provided by doctors, both GPs and specialists, for anyone over the age of 70. • Specialist onsite pathology services ensuring residents don't have to leave facilities and to quickly respond to potential cases. • Additional funds allowing the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission to work with providers on improving infection control. | Written |
| SQ20-000568 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Aged Care Workforce Funding | <p>How much of the \$444.6 million to for the aged care workforce has now been spent? Please provide the amount of funding that has been allocated for each of the measures below and how much is yet to be spent and why the funding, if any, has not been spent to date?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$234.9 million for a COVID-19 'retention bonus' to ensure the continuity of the workforce for aged care workers in both residential and home care. • \$78.3 million in additional funding for residential care to support continuity of workforce supply. • \$26.9 million for a temporary 30 per cent increase to the Residential and Home Care Viability Supplements and the Homeless Supplement. This includes equivalent viability funding increases for National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program providers, Multi-Purpose Services and homeless providers. • \$92.2 million in additional support to home care providers and organisations which deliver the Commonwealth Home Support Programme, operating services including meals on wheels. This will include services for people in self-isolation such as shopping and meal delivery. | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$12.3 million to support the My Aged Care service to meet the surge in aged care specific COVID-19 enquiries, allowing for additional staff to minimise call wait times. | |
| SQ20-000569 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | AIS facility | Mr Dalton mentioned in his opening statement at Estimates (Hansard page 106) that the closure and limited operation of the AIS facility in Canberra due to COVID-19 had impacted bookings and commercial operations. What has been the financial impact of restricted activity at the AIS facility in Canberra to date at the time of providing the response to this Question on Notice? | Written |
| SQ20-000570 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | AIS innovation and technology | <p>Sport 2030 says Australia's high-performance system, lead by the AIS, will ensure sports, teams and athletes have world-leading technology - What is the AIS doing to drive the creation and use of world-leading sports technology in Australian sport?</p> <p>Are you aware of rowing technology known as the Randall Foil?</p> <p>Has the AIS offered any support to Rowing Australia in relation to testing the Randall Foil? If so, what testing has the AIS done? If not, why not?</p> <p>If the AIS is leading Australia's high-performance system, why can it not test sport technology independently of NSOs and then provide NSOs with reliable, scientific data on the performance of sports technology such as the Randall Foil?</p> <p>Where does responsibility currently sit within Australia's high-performance system in relation to testing and developing sports technology?</p> <p>If responsibility does not sit with the AIS, how can the AIS plan to ensure NSOs that are often not resourced to conduct their own testing and development will have access to world-leading sports technology?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000571 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Community Visitors Scheme | How much of the \$10 million announced for the Community Visitors Scheme to keep older Australians connected as been spent to date? Please provide the total number of older Australians who accessed this measure as well as a breakdown by state and territory. | Written |
| SQ20-000572 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Sporting Schools program | <p>Is it correct that the Sporting Schools program was "designed to help schools to increase children's participation in sport, and to connect them with community sporting opportunities" as stated on the program's webpage?</p> <p>Can you please provide a consolidated, updated table of data relating to the program, as per the response to QoN 229 from Additional Estimates in March?</p> | Written |

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| SQ20-000573 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Commonwealth Home Care Packages during COVID-19 | How many older Australians in receipt of a Commonwealth Home Care Package have accessed personal monitoring technology during the COVID-19 pandemic? Please provide the amount of funding that has been allocated to this measure as a total, how much funding has been spent to date, how many older Australians have accessed personal monitoring technology during the COVID-19 pandemic as a total and a breakdown by state and territory. | Written |
| SQ20-000574 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Local Sporting Champions - COVID Impact on Sports programs | Have any changes been made to the program and / or how it operates in response to the impacts of COVID-19 and, if so, can you please outline those changes? | Written |
| SQ20-000575 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Palliative Care in aged care facilities | How much of the \$57.2 million allocated to improve palliative care in aged care facilities has been spent to date? How many residents have accessed funding as part of this measure as a total and by state and territory? How many residential aged care facilities have accessed funding from this measure as a total and by state and territory? Please explain how this funding was allocated to residential aged care facilities. Are there signed agreements for all state and territory governments? Please provide the total amount of funding for each state and territory government. If signed agreements have not been finalised, why not? | Written |
| SQ20-000576 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Preventative and Population Health and payments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please list all the measures in the Budget which meet the AIHW definition of 'preventive and population health' expenditure according to the 2008 AIHW series definition of preventive health. • On what basis were the payments to providers removed, given providers are still required to submit information to the NBCSP? | Written |
| SQ20-000577 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Business Advisory Service | How many service providers have accessed advice, analysis and assistance through the Business Advisory Service? Please provide the total number of service providers and a breakdown by residential or home care provider and by state and territory. What is the cost of providing the Business Advisory Service? | Written |
| SQ20-000578 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Payments for the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are new payments being introduced to support health providers to deliver the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program? | Written |

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| SQ20-000579 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Status and funding of the National Obesity Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the latest status of the National Obesity Strategy? Will funding be attached to the National Obesity Strategy? | Written |
| SQ20-000580 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Status of the National Alcohol Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the latest status of the National Alcohol Strategy? | Written |
| SQ20-000581 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Support for essential health and aged care workers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the Government doing to support the mental health and wellbeing of our essential health and aged care workers? | Written |
| SQ20-000582 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Digital mental health services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$6.9 million has been budgeted over two years to support digital mental health services. What actions are the Department taking to bridge the digital divide and ensure people with no access to the internet are able to access mental health services? | Written |
| SQ20-000583 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Next steps for mental health telehealth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the next steps for mental health telehealth beyond the current extension? Will the Department be conducting an evaluation of the use of telehealth for mental health care? | Written |
| SQ20-000584 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Female Facilities and Water Safety Stream – Unallocated funding | Ms Edwards told Estimates that \$18.27 million of the \$150 million announced by the Prime Minister and Senator McKenzie under the Female Facilities and Water Safety Stream was yet to be allocated – what is the current status of that funding? | Written |
| SQ20-000585 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Mental health first aid training for the Medical Students' Association | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earlier in the year the Government announced funding for Mental Health First Aid training for the Medical Students' Association. Are there any plans to increase this funding so more students can participate? | Written |
| SQ20-000586 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Mental health first aid training for organisations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the Department provided advice to the Government about the value of funding Mental Health First Aid training for other organisations such as schools, workplaces, community groups? | Written |

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| SQ20-000587 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | National Mental Health Workforce Strategy update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you provide an update on the development of the National Mental Health Workforce Strategy? | Written |
| SQ20-000588 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Mental health services for people in residential aged care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When are the evaluations for mental health services being provided to people in residential aged care due to be completed? • How will the data collected in these evaluations inform future planning around mental health services for older Australians in residential aged care? | Written |
| SQ20-000589 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Mental health and alcohol and other drug co-morbidities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the course of the government's focus on Mental Health, has it become apparent that alcohol and other drug services also warrant a stand-alone approach, especially as mental health and alcohol and other drug co-morbidities are bidirectional? | Written |
| SQ20-000590 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Developing a stand-alone alcohol and other drug investment funding package | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the government developing a stand-alone alcohol and other drug investment funding package? | Written |
| SQ20-000591 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Vision 2030 Mental Health Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you provide an update on the status of the Vision 2030 Mental Health Strategy, and when it is anticipated the Vision will be finalised and released? | Written |
| SQ20-000592 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Vision Blueprint and Roadmap | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What stakeholders have been, or will be, consulted on the Vision Blueprint and Roadmap? | Written |
| SQ20-000593 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Advisory Committee for the Roadmap process | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who has been on the Advisory Committee for the Roadmap process? | Written |
| SQ20-000594 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Vision 2030 final recommendations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent will the Vision 2030 document reflect the final recommendations of the Productivity Commission's report into mental health? | Written |

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| SQ20-000595 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Siewert, Rachel | Access to Medicare and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On what grounds did the Minister reject Danila Dilba's request to provide access to Medicare and PBS services to young people in Don Dale Detention Centre? • Is there any particular criteria that is used by the Minister to make decisions are requests for 19(2) exemptions so services can access medicare and pharmaceutical benefits? • Has the Minister received similar requests from other detention centres or prisons? If so, please outline which ones. | Written |
| SQ20-000597 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | 2017 Intergenerational Review | <p>Does the Department agree with the finding of the 2017 Intergenerational Review of Australian Sport that sport creates \$29 billion of net health benefits each year through reduced healthcare costs and early mortality?</p> <p>How were the representatives of the expert steering committee chosen and appointed?</p> <p>Were any sport organisations invited to join the expert steering committee?</p> <p>If so, which sporting organisations were invited and why did they not end up on the steering committee?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000600 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Australian Sports Foundation capacity boost | <p>Please outline the technology enhancements required to embed ASF donations capability into existing online platforms used by sports clubs, as mentioned by Mr Walker at Estimates on 27 October (Hansard page 102).</p> <p>What software enhancements are required?</p> <p>What hardware enhancements are required?</p> <p>How will ASF ensure that embedding capability will be functional across the extremely broad array of online platforms used by sports clubs and organisations?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000601 | 4 - Individual Health Benefits | Siewert, Rachel | Hearing screenings for children | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Table 2.4.3 there is a delivery activity statement, "Pilot voluntary hearing screenings for school age students". What costs are associated with this initiative? How many children will screened? How will it impact on access to supports post-screening? How will funds be made available to ensure services do not simply stop at screening, but rather, ensure an integrated approach is implemented? | Written |
| SQ20-000602 | 4 - Individual | Siewert, Rachel | Cost of Private Health Insurance rebate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the cost of the PHI rebate this financial year? How does that compare to recent years? What is the coverage rate for hospital and general (ancillary) cover? | Written |

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| | Health Benefits | | | | |
| SQ20-000603 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Special Access Scheme Category B pathway | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The primary access pathway for medicinal cannabis products in Australia is via the Special Access Scheme Category B pathway. How many SAS-B applications for any drug were submitted in calendar year 2015? How many SAS-B applications for any drug have been submitted so far this year, and how many of those were for a medicinal cannabis product? | Written |
| SQ20-000604 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Licence applications for medicinal cannabis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since November 2016 please provide (broken down by year): The number of cultivation licence applications have been received, rejected and approved? The number of manufacturing licence applications have been received, rejected and approved? The number of research licence applications have been received, rejected and approved? For each of those licence types, what is the average amount of time it has taken for the licences to be approved by the ODC, from when the application was first made? | Written |
| SQ20-000605 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Processing times for new licence applications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there target processing times that the ODC aims for in relation to new licence applications. How many applications have been approved in accordance with those target processing times? | Written |
| SQ20-000606 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | How much cannabis has been cultivated | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many kilograms of cannabis flower have been cultivated in Australia for commercial purposes (not for research purposes) during calendar year 2020? | Written |
| SQ20-000607 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Australian cultivated and manufactured cannabis medicine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the four years that the ODC has been processing applications, how many companies have produced a totally Australian-cultivated and manufactured cannabis medicine that has been prescribed to Australian patients? | Written |
| SQ20-000608 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Cultivation licences | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why is it that the government has apparently issued so many licences but so few companies have been able to bring products to market? | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many of the companies that have been issued licences have also been issued permits authorising actual cultivation/production, manufacture and research. | |
| SQ20-000609 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | ODC operating budget | What is the total expected operating budget for the ODC in calendar years 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024? | Written |
| SQ20-000610 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | ODC staffing | Since November 2016, how many FTE staff have been hired to work at the ODC year-on-year? How many of those staff have subsequently left the ODC? How many of those staff have been engaged on a permanent basis and how many have been contractors? | Written |
| SQ20-000611 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Prioritisation criteria for a covid vaccine | Has the Government done any work on prioritisation criteria for a covid vaccine once its developed? If so, why haven't you engaged the public yet? If not, why not? | Written |
| SQ20-000612 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | COVID-19 vaccines and consumables - systemic improvements | The budget papers provide for access to the COVID-19 vaccines and consumables, but not for further systemic improvements. Why isn't the Government investing in the system improvements needed to ensure that vaccines can be effectively delivered? | Written |
| SQ20-000613 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | COVID Vaccine - Australian Immunisation Register | Reports indicate that only half of all flu vaccinations are uploaded to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR). If this were to happen with a COVID vaccine that would cause significant disruption and problems. What is the Government's plan to invest in the AIR and other related systems to ensure that that does not happen with the COVID vaccine? | Written |
| SQ20-000614 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | COVID Vaccine roll out | What are the Government's plans for working with states and territories to ensure that any vaccine roll out is consistent across jurisdictions? | Written |

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| SQ20-000615 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | COVID vaccine - access | What is the Government's plan to ensure that access to the vaccine will not be dependent on ability to pay to access, but on equity? | Written |
| SQ20-000616 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | COVID Vaccine - workforce for deployment | The scale of the vaccine roll out will be larger than Australia, and the world, has ever seen. What are the Government's plans to invest in ensuring there is sufficient workforce and availability of this workforce whenever the vaccine is ready to be deployed? | Written |
| SQ20-000620 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Breakdown of how personal protective equipment will be distributed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2020-21 Budget included funding of \$3.3 billion for the National Medical Stockpile. Can the Department provide a breakdown by health setting of how personal protective equipment will be distributed? | Written |
| SQ20-000621 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Monoclonal antibody therapy to treat COVID-19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the Government considered the use of monoclonal antibody therapy as a supplementary treatment for Covid-19, in addition to a vaccine? If being considered as a potential therapy, what is the Government doing to increase manufacturing capacity of monoclonal antibodies in Australia? | Written |
| SQ20-000622 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Research funded CSIRO projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide full detail of the two pieces of research the department has funded for both CSIRO projects, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Project outline and rationale o Proposed methodology, including timeline o Expected outcomes o Identify the Chief Investigator/s of each project | Written |
| SQ20-000623 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Nicotine schedule | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What evidence was used to make the interim decision to down schedule nicotine? What implications does the down scheduling have for the future regulation of nicotine? | Written |

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| SQ20-000624 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Increasing consumer confidence in the regulation of medical devices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the TGA doing to increase consumer confidence in the regulation of medical devices? | Written |
| SQ20-000625 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Consumer education relating to the regulation of therapeutic goods | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the TGA doing to provide consumer education around the regulation of therapeutic goods? | Written |
| SQ20-000626 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Status of the proposed rescheduling of psilocybin and MDMA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you give an update on the status of the proposed rescheduling of psilocybin and MDMA for medicinal use from Schedule 9 (Prohibited Substances) to Schedule 8 (Controlled Medicines)? When is this process expected to be completed? | Written |
| SQ20-000627 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Sourcing of medical rubber gloves | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From which suppliers/countries is the Australian Government sourcing its medical rubber gloves in the response to COVID-19? • How many medical rubber gloves has the Australian Government procured: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from July 2019-February 2020 • from March 2020-June 2020 • from July 2020-present? • How much has the Australian Government spent on the procurement of medical rubber gloves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from July 2019-February 2020 • from March 2020-June 2020 • from July 2020-present? | Written |
| SQ20-000628 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Post-Covid syndrome | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are reports that up to 20% of people who had Covid-19 still experience some symptoms 2-3 months later, including chest heaviness, breathlessness, fatigue, reduced lung function etc. Is the Government aware of post-Covid syndrome? If yes, what is the Government doing to better understand post-Covid syndrome and to support people affected? • If the Government is aware of post-Covid syndrome, have they conducted any research to understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o How long post-Covid syndrome can affect an individual? | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o What treatment options are available for affected individuals? o If it disproportionately affects some age groups or demographics more than others? | |
| SQ20-000629 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Clinical Pathway and LDAA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With reference to the letter received from the Office of the Minister for Health, the Hon. Greg Hunt MP, dated 2 June 2020, it was stated that "the Department of Health is committed to further engagement with patient group representatives, including the LDAA, when finalising the pathway". <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Could you please specify at what stage after the release of the draft Clinical Pathway document were patient groups consulted and given an opportunity to further engage in the development of the final Clinical Pathway, prior to its release to primary stakeholders on 22 October 2020? o Can you specify which substantive areas of patient stakeholder feedback were incorporated into the final Clinical Pathway? • Please clarify where and when the final Clinical Pathway document will be published? | Written |
| SQ20-000630 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Tick borne illness and prevention | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to the project/s to develop 'education and awareness materials to assist health professionals and the public to better understand tick-borne illness in Australia and provide best practice advice regarding tick bite prevention and tick removal': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o What is the reason/s for the project delay? o Has the project contract with the initial supplier been terminated? If so, why? | Written |
| SQ20-000631 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | DSCATT research and CSIRO projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to the DSCATT research the Department has funded for the two CSIRO projects, please specify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The Chief Investigator/s of each project; and, o Their relevant qualifications and expertise. | Written |
| SQ20-000632 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Lyme-like illness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In evidence provided to the committee at Senate Estimates, Ms Street referred to research being conducted to ascertain "the nature and causes of DSCATT". Bearing in mind Recommendation 7 from the Senate Inquiry into Lyme-like Illness: Can you please clarify which of the current research projects aimed at ascertaining "the nature and causes of DSCATT" focus on existing patients identified as experiencing long-term debilitating symptoms attributed to ticks – rather than, for example, the study of acute responses to tick bites? | Written |

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| SQ20-000633 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Tick-borne illness documents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide a list of stakeholder groups who specifically provided contributions, evidence and research forming part of all of the relevant tick-borne illness documents, including, but not limited to, the Clinical Guidelines, as well as specifically identifying the stakeholder groups and members that opposed it? | Written |
| SQ20-000634 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Suppression of literature review for the Clinical Guidelines | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why has the literature review developed for the Clinical Guidelines been suppressed from all patient groups that were party to the consultation process? | Written |
| SQ20-000635 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | literature review and research for the Clinical Guidelines | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In relation to the literature review for the Clinical Guidelines, what evidence and research did the Department of Health and its consultants or contractors rely upon, specifically providing the full list of actual citations relied upon. | Written |
| SQ20-000636 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | FOI literature review for the Clinical Guidelines and Pathway document | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In relation to the literature review for the Clinical Guidelines, an FOI was requested by Lea England (FOI 1677) to request disclosure of the evidence used to prepare the Clinical Guideline and pathway document. In the response from the Department of Health (page 8), the refusal to provide the list of evidence used was based on "adverse effects on the professional and business affairs of the third parties" and that "disclosure could reasonably be expected to adversely affect the business affairs of the third parties". Please provide a full list explicitly identifying each of these third parties whom could reasonably be expected to have their business affairs adversely affected and explain how a list of citations or peer reviewed evidence could possibly impact the commercial interests of any stakeholder or third party in the process of this document. | Written |
| SQ20-000637 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | revised Clinical Guidelines for tick-borne illness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why were the revised Clinical Guidelines released to some tick-borne illness groups and not all that were party to the consultation process? | Written |
| SQ20-000638 | 5 - Regulation, | Siewert, Rachel | Exclusion and inclusion of evidence and | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What framework and methodology was used to establish the exclusion and inclusion of evidence and research for the Clinical Guidelines (both draft and final draft)? | Written |

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| | Safety and Protection | | research for the Clinical Guidelines | | |
| SQ20-000639 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Identification and testing of tick-borne illness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the Department of Health consider to be the gold standard for identification and testing of each tick-borne disease pathogen? Does this framework and methodology meet the NHMRC's requirements for development of Clinical Guidelines? | Written |
| SQ20-000640 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Evidence and research excluded and included associated ratings and weightings and associated comments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide a copy of the evidence and research excluded and included including any associated ratings and weightings and associated comments | Written |
| SQ20-000641 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Patient group representatives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please circulate the above list to all patient group representatives who were party to the consultation process? | Written |
| SQ20-000642 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Tick-borne illness groups | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout the consultation process, a number of tick-borne illness groups raised the fact that additional groups had not been considered or excluded including those explicitly listed within the relevant tender documents but no contact was made with them. Some of these groups then wrote submissions and these were apparently not accepted. Is this correct? If so can you explain why these groups were not included? Can you explain why their submissions were excluded once they had been identified and the Department of Health and/or Allen + Clarke were informed? | Written |
| SQ20-000643 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Stakeholders involved in the consultation process for tick-borne illness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide a copy of the list of stakeholders specifically involved in the consultation process for each project funded in relation to tick-borne illnesses. Please provide information on how each stakeholder's submission was considered and incorporated or excluded within each project and which stakeholders had transparency over the literature review. | Written |

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| SQ20-000644 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Rejection of the draft Clinical Pathway | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it true that there is unanimous rejection of the draft Clinical Pathway by all tick-borne illness groups and some medical practitioners and specialists, particularly on the grounds of evidence and research either excluded or included? | Written |
| SQ20-000645 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | Testing and interpretation of pathology for all tick-borne illnesses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the Department of Health (or any other relevant Australian Government agency or authority) hold standards for the medical testing and interpretation of pathology for all tick-borne illnesses tested for in Australia? If so, please provide copies of such and advised where these were considered in the Clinical Guidelines. If not, why not? | Written |
| SQ20-000646 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | Siewert, Rachel | TCR funding research projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does NHMRC track progress of TCR funding research projects? If not, why not? • Please provide progress reports for each of the two projects funded under the TCR in DSCATT. For each project, please provide the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o What stage/ phase the project is at; o Validation that NHMRC considers the project has adhered to the activities outlined in the research proposal; o How the project incorporated patient representatives into the design of the project; if there has been no patient representation, please explain why; o Project expenditure to date; o The number of patients recruited to the research project; o The selection criteria applied to research participants; and, o The timeline to reporting on outcomes. | Written |
| SQ20-000647 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Costings of hospitalising non infected aged care residents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much does it cost to hospitalise non-infected aged care residents who don't need to be hospitalised apart from the fact that they are living in a facility with covid-infected residents? | Written |
| SQ20-000648 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Implementation of the Aged Care Workforce Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why did it take over two years to announce funding for implementation of the Aged Care Workforce Strategy? | Written |

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| SQ20-000649 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Breakdown of implementation of the Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can you provide a breakdown of how the \$10.3 million will be used for implementation of the Strategy? | Written |
| SQ20-000650 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Role of the Workforce Industry Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What role will the Workforce Industry Council have in implementing this Budget measure? | Written |
| SQ20-000651 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Response to the 14 Strategic Actions outlined in the 2018 'A Matter of Care' Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When is the Government going to provide a full and formal response to the 14 Strategic Actions outlined in the 2018 'A Matter of Care' Report? | Written |
| SQ20-000652 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Review into home care and funding | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How did the Government decide to allocate \$4.6 million to the review into home care? What is the Government aiming to achieve with this funding and how will the Department measure its success? | Written |
| SQ20-000653 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Complaints the Commission has received for chemical and physical restraints | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide the latest available figures on the number of complaints the Commission has received for chemical and physical restraints for each quarter for the past 4 quarters? | Written |
| SQ20-000654 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Breakdown of the \$26 million announced in the Budget for the Commission | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide a breakdown of the \$26 million announced in the Budget for the Commission and describe how this will be used by the Commission and for what activities. | Written |
| SQ20-000655 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | Breakdown of how the \$9 million for regulation of the aged care sector will be used by the Commission | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide a breakdown of how the \$9 million for regulation of the aged care sector will be used by the Commission and describe what activities will be undertaken using this money to support regulation. | Written |

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| SQ20-000656 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Siewert, Rachel | CHSP ceasing in Victoria | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In regards to CHSP ceasing in Victoria from June 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Given the wait lists that exist for Home Care Packages, are alternative providers able to meet the needs for community care once Councils exit? o What impacts does the Government anticipate the transition away from Council community care will have on workforce availability? o Has the Government undertaken any data collection to calculate the lost income or the impact of workforce retention of the pandemic in Victoria? | Written |
| SQ20-000657 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | ASF Budget Funding | <p>Mr Walker told the Committee at Estimates (Hansard page 102) that about a third of the funding provided to the ASF in the budget would be invested in "growing the capacity of the sporting community to raise funds". How, specifically, will the ASF spend that portion of the funding in order to boost the fundraising capacity of the sporting community?</p> <p>How, specifically, will the the ASF spend the portion of Budget funding it allocates to engaging "resources to have those conversations with major givers in the philanthropic circles"?</p> <p>Does the ASF plan to hire additional staff? If so, will those staff be ongoing, full-time staff, contractors or consultants?</p> <p>Does the ASF plan to spend any of the Budget funding on marketing?</p> <p>If so, will marketing, PR or advertising service requirements be put out to tender or will there be some other process? If those services won't be tendered, what will the process be?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000658 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | COVID-19 impact on Community Sport | Can you please provide an update on the ASF's continuing collaboration with Victoria University in a longitudinal study of the physical and mental health impacts resulting from COVID-19s impact on community sport? | Written |
| SQ20-000659 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Female Facilities and Water Safety Stream - Number of inquiries | Ms Edwards told Estimates: "We may have had inquiries from people saying, 'Hey, can I get a grant under female facilities and water safety?' That would be the sort of thing we get from time to time." How many such inquiries has the Department received from interested parties? Were any such inquiries passed on to the Department of Health by the Department of Infrastructure when the fund was transferred to Health, or since that transfer? | Written |
| SQ20-000660 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Female Facilities and Water Safety Stream – Projects without executed agreements | Ms Edwards told Estimates that as of 26 October 2020 30 FFWSS project agreements have been executed, to a total of \$43.07 million. Can you please provide a list detailing the remaining 11 of the 41 total grants announced under the program, including the amount of the grant and what stage the grant process is up to? | Written |

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| SQ20-000661 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Local Sporting Champions - feedback from MPs | Has Sport Australia received any reports of issues or problems with the program, or other feedback from MPs and, if so, can you please outline those issues and what has been done to address them? | Written |
| SQ20-000662 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Local Sporting Champions - fair distribution of grants | Some MPs have reported low numbers of applications in their electorates, presumably as a result of COVID-19 cancellations, postponements and travel restrictions – What is Sport Australia doing to ensure a fair distribution of grants, given those cancellations, postponements and travel restrictions differ from sport to sport and state to state? | Written |
| SQ20-000663 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Local Sporting Champions - number of grants in electorates | What is being done to ensure an equitable number of grants can continue to be provided in each electorate across the nation? | Written |
| SQ20-000664 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Sporting Schools program - availability of data | What action has Sport Australia taken to improve the availability of data in relation to the program's stated outcomes? | Written |
| SQ20-000665 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Sporting Schools program - participation | How many unique, individual Australian children have participated in the Sporting Schools program? | Written |
| SQ20-000666 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Sporting Schools program - local community sporting clubs | How many Sporting Schools participants have subsequently become a member of a local community sporting club? | Written |
| SQ20-000667 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | Equestrian Fire Relief Australia - funds | On what date was the ASF first approached by representatives of Equestrian Fire Relief Australia? On what date(s) were funds transferred from EFRA to the ASF? How much funding in total that was originally donated to EFRA has been transferred to the ASF? A post on the EFRA website on 23 January 2020 states the fund will be spent "In its entirety before the end of December 2020... to support the needs of those affected by the 2019/2020 Bushfire disaster". Will the ASF be able to expend all of the funds raised before the end of December 2020? | Written |
| SQ20-000668 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | EFRA - bushfire disaster | Will the ASF be providing funds only to those affected by the 2019/20 bushfire disaster? | Written |

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| SQ20-000669 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | EFRA - reimbursements | Will the ASF be able to provide grants from the fund to reimburse impacted individuals for the costs of feed, fencing and vet bills? Will the ASF be able to provide grants from the fund to cover the costs of replacing horses? | Written |
| SQ20-000670 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | EFRA - return to sport eligibility | Mr Walker stated at Estimates that individuals not associated with a club would be eligible for grants. How will the ASF define a "return to sport"? Will hobby equestrians be eligible for grants? | Written |
| SQ20-000671 | 3 - Sport and Recreation | Farrell, Don | EFRA - traumatised recipients | Many of those impacted by the bushfires have been traumatised by the experience – will grant recipients have to comply with standard conditions that require them to be involved in promotional activities? | Written |
| SQ20-000672 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Paused Aged Care Measures | 'The Minister for Aged Care's media release on 25 March 2020 stated that there would be a number of measures that would be put on hold for at least six months. Can the Department confirm if the two measures below are still paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 Aged Care Approval Round. • AN-ACC assessment trial. If yes, when does the Department expect work will re-start on these measures. If no, please provide an update on the work undertaken for each measure since work has resumed.' | Written |
| SQ20-000673 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Funding for the Victorian Aged Care Emergency Response Centre | "How much funding has the Federal Government allocated to date to operate the Victorian Aged Care Emergency Response Centre? Please provide for what purpose the funding was used for. Can the Department confirm the salary package provided to Mr Joe Buffone for the work he undertook as the chief of the Victorian Aged Care Emergency Response Centre? Can the Department confirm how long Mr Joe Buffone was the head of the Victorian Aged Care Emergency Response Centre?" | Written |
| SQ20-000674 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Aged Care Emergency Response Centre | Can the Department provide an update on the work being undertaken to establish an aged care emergency response centre in each state and territory? What financial, workforce or other support is the Department or Federal Government providing states and territories to assist them to set up these centres? | Written |

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| SQ20-000675 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | COVID-19 Support Lines | "Can the Department provide an update on the number of calls received to OPAN, COTA, National Seniors Australia and Dementia Australia to assist with COVID-19 issues? Please provide a breakdown of the number of calls received for each month between March and December and the amount of funding provided to each organisation and when this funding will end. How many referrals has OPAN received to date since April this year? Please provide the number of referrals as a total, by referral from either home care or CHSP providers and the amount of funding allocated for this measure? " | Written |
| SQ20-000676 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Ongoing support for aged care workers | Is the Department or Federal Government offering any follow up support to aged care workers carers who have been working on the frontline during the COVID-19 pandemic? If yes, please provide the support being offered. If no, why not? | Written |
| SQ20-000677 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Transfer of functions to the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission | Can the Department confirm if there is any retrospective data including any sanctions or regulatory actions that have been removed from the public domain as a result of the legislation that has been passed by the Parliament around the transfer of functions from the Department of Health to the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission? If yes, please provide details on the data that has been removed from the public domain and the reasons this was able to occur. | Written |
| SQ20-000678 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | COVID-19 Outbreaks | Please provide the following data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of COVID-19 cases nationally, for each state and territory for residents and staff in aged care for home care and residential aged care. • Number of COVID-19 deaths in residential and home care by state and territory. • Number of hospital transfers for each COVID-19 outbreak by state and territory for those aged care residents testing positive and for those aged care residents testing negative. | Written |
| SQ20-000679 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Aged Care Facility Vacancy Rates | Can the Department provide the most up-to-date vacancy rates across residential aged care nationally and by state and territory? How has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted on vacancy rates? What work is the Department or Government undertaking in relation to vacancy rates? | Written |
| SQ20-000680 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Residential Accommodation Deposits | Can the Department provide the total value of all Residential Accommodation Deposits across for all residential aged care facilities? Please provide this information as a total and by state and | Written |

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| | | | | territory? If this information is available by financial year please provide by total and by state and territory for 2016-17, 2018-19, 2019-20. | |
| SQ20-000681 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Funding to peaks and consumer groups | <p>Can the Department confirm if any funding has been provided to the following organisations for the financial years 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2020-21? If yes please provide the total amount of funding and for what purpose the funding has been allocated?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COTA • National Seniors Australia • Leading Age Services Australia • Aged & Community Services Australia • Aged Care Guild • OPAN • Dementia Australia | Written |
| SQ20-000682 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Registration scheme for aged care workers | <p>Can the Department provide an update on the work being undertaking to progress a registration scheme for aged care workers? Can the Department confirm if the consultation phase has now been concluded? If yes, can the Department provide a list of stakeholders, people or organisations who were part of the consultation process? If no, why not? How much funding has been provided so far to progress work to establish a registration scheme for aged care workers? Is the registration scheme on track to start in early 2021? If no, what is the reason for the delay?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000683 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Educating the Nurse of the Future report | <p>Can the Department explain what value the Educating the Nurse of the Future report is providing the Government? Can the Department confirm if any funding was provided to undertake and complete this report? If yes, how much funding was provided and to whom?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000684 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Sexual abuse data | <p>Can the Department of Health confirm that it is has been holding unpublished data that has yet to be made public since 2008 relating to the number of sexual assault incidents across aged care services? If yes, can the Department provide this data for each year from 2008 to 2020? Can the Department provide an explanation to why this information has not been made public and why it is not been tabled in the Parliament?</p> | Written |

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| SQ20-000685 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Retention bonus | <p>Please provide a total funding for each round of the three rounds of the retention bonus, broken down by state and territory and by home care or residential care. Please also provide information relating to this funding and if it was under MYEFO or Budget 2020-21.</p> <p>Can the Department confirm if it provided any guidelines to service providers about how they should pay the retention bonus to direct care aged care workers?</p> <p>Can the Department confirm if any residential or home care services providers are combining the retention bonus with employees' wages so they are being pushed into higher tax brackets and therefore losing more than half the retention bonus?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000686 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Social leave aged care residents | <p>Can the Department provide the number of permanent aged care residents who have accessed social leave during the COVID-19 pandemic by total and by state and territory as well as the total amount of funding (subsidies and fees) paid as a total and by state and territory? Does the Department keep a record of the reasons why permanent aged care residents, their families, carers or loved ones have accessed social leave? If yes, please provide a list of reasons why social leave is accessed. If not, why not?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000687 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Review into Earle Haven | <p>Please outline how many of the 23 recommendations of the Earle Haven review have been fully implemented? For each of the recommendations that have yet to be fully implemented please provide a reason for why this is the case? Is there any funding that has been allocated to any of the 23 recommendations? If yes, please provide funding details next to each of the recommendations.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000688 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Australian Law Reform Commission's Elder Abuse report | <p>How many of the 14 aged care recommendations included in the Australian Law Reform Commission's Elder Abuse report have been fully implemented? Please provide a detailed response to the Government's progress on each of the 14 recommendations including dates, funding allocated and any other timeframes.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000689 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | COVID-19 Online Training | <p>How much funding has been provided to develop and provide the COVID-19 online training? Please provide a breakdown of aged care and non-aged care workers that completed the nine online modules from February to December?</p> | Written |

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| SQ20-000690 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | My Aged Care funding | Please provide each funding measure that has been allocated to the My Aged Care portal for the following 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and any funding since 30 June 2020 as a total and for each funding allocation along with the purpose the funding will be used for. | Written |
| SQ20-000691 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | My Aged Care access to computer or internet | Can the Department explain how an older person who has been assessed for care can access information about which service provider to engage if they don't have a computer or internet? Has the Department investigated a default arrangement for older Australians over the age of 80, living by themselves who do not have computer or internet access but need to choose a service provider? Can the Department provide a copy of the letter it currently sends to older Australians who have been assessed for home care that includes a link to the My Aged Care website so they can choose a service provider? | Written |
| SQ20-000692 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | My Aged Care training for Australians over 80 | Can the Department confirm if My Aged Care staff are trained to provide any additional services or information to older Australians in their 80's and 90's and specifically those in these age groups who live on their own? How many requests has the Department or Minister's office received from older Australians approved for a home care package in their 80's, 90's, those with a terminal illness or their families, carers or loved ones to urgently get the care and support they need because their health has deteriorated or their circumstances have changed? If there have been requests, how many older Australians have received higher levels of care? | Written |
| SQ20-000693 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | My Aged Care personal details | Can the Department confirm if the Government or My Aged Care provides any personal details of those who have registered for aged care services to service providers for their marketing purposes? If yes, why is this the case? | Written |
| SQ20-000694 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | My Aged Care Staff | Can the Department provide a breakdown of the number of My Aged Care staff who are full-time employees as part of the Australian Public Service, those who are contracted and those who are engaged through labour hire companies? Please provide the total number, a breakdown by how staff are employed (as above), by state and territory and for the financial years 2017-18, 2018-19 & 2019-20. | Written |
| SQ20-000695 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | My Aged Care calls | How many telephone calls to My Aged Care have gone unanswered for each month for January through to November and by financial years 2018-19, 2019-20. | Written |

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| SQ20-000696 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | COVID-19 reviews into aged care homes | <p>Can the Department confirm when the independent reviews into the St Basil's and Epping Gardens' COVID-19 outbreaks will be published?</p> <p>Can the Department provide the names of any other Victorian facilities that will have an independent review of their COVID-19 outbreaks? If yes, please provide the names of the residential aged care facilities and the date the independent review will be undertaken. If there aren't any further independent reviews, why not?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000697 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Funding for DP Jones | <p>Please provide the total amount of funding that has been provided to the DP Jones Nursing Home Since December 2019 as well as a breakdown of each payment, when the payment was made, for what purpose and from what funding stream. Can the Department provide any details around how long it will continue to provide funding for the DP Jones Nursing Home? Has or will there been any funding for the DP Jones Nursing Home from any other departments?</p> <p>How many residential aged care facilities and/or service providers have sought financial support from the Morrison Government? Please provide a list by residential aged care facility, the amount of funding provided, the date the funding was provided and from which funding stream? How many residential aged care facilities have received funding from the Business Improvement Fund or any other funding? Please provide the names of each facility and or/service provider, the amount of funding provided, the date the funding was provided, the funding stream used and if they have staff and residents onsite.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000698 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Infection control officers | <p>How many on-site infection control officers have been employed in residential aged care facilities since 31 August 2020? Please provide the total number, the number for September and October, by residential aged care facility and/or by provider, by state and territory. Please provide the date that the Department of Health first provided advice to the Minister of Aged Care and/or the Minister for Health about infection control officers? Can the Department confirm if St Basil's, Epping Gardens, Newmarch House and Dorothy Henderson Lodge have an infection control officer? Can the Department provide a link or location online for the public to know where the infection control officers are located and in which facilities?</p> <p>What level of qualification will an infection control officer be required to have? Can the Department</p> | Written |

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| | | | | <p>of Health confirm if it has provided advice to the Minister for Aged Care and/or the Minister for Health about infection control officers being considered for residential aged care facilities prior to the COVID-19 pandemic?</p> <p>Can the Department explain how service providers get access to the funding that is attached to infection control officers? How is the Department monitoring the employment of infection control officers? How long do these infection control officer positions have to remain in place for the service provider to receive the funding? How much of the \$563.3 million has been allocated to the on-site infection control officers? How much of the \$563.3 million has been allocated to service providers to address other COVID-19 related costs? Can the Department provide a breakdown of the number of service providers that have accessed this funding, the name of the residential aged care facility, what the funding was for and its location including by state and territory?</p> | |
| SQ20-000699 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Aged Care Financing Authority | <p>Can the Department explain the process of how a member of the Aged Care Financing Authority is appointed? Can the Department provide a current list of members appointed to the Aged Care Financing Authority including the terms of their appointment, appointment expiry date and any fees they receive for the work they undertake? Can the Department provide a list of all previous members appointed to the Aged Care Financing Authority including the terms of their appointment, appointment expiry date and any fees they receive for the work they undertake from 1 August 2012 to October 2020?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000700 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Economical & Fiscal Update July 2020 | <p>Please provide the following information against each of the measures included in the Economic and Fiscal Update July 2020:</p> <p>How many of the 6,105 home care packages have been allocated? Please provide a breakdown of the level of package and the total number of packages each state and territories received and by Aged Care Planning Region.</p> <p>How much of the \$166.9 million has been spent to continue work on options to reform residential aged care funding and to replace the ageing ICT payment system for residential care? Please outline how the funding has been used and for what purpose. If there are funds left under this measure how much has yet to be allocated and why is this the case?</p> | Written |

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| | | | | <p>How much of the \$48.7 million to establish the Business Improvement fund has been spent? How was the \$48.7 million allocated and for what purpose? Please outline how many residential aged care facilities and/or service providers have received assistance to improve their financial operations as well as the amount of funding they have received and the date they received the funding. If there are funds left under this measure how much has yet to be allocated and why is this the case? How much funding has the Department allocated to promote this funding measure to service providers?</p> <p>How much of the \$27.9 million of funding has been spent to extend continuity of support for older Australians with a disability who were ineligible to transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme? Please provide the total number of older Australians with a disability who have been assisted and the number by state and territory and by Aged Care Planning Region. If there are funds left under this measure how much has yet to be allocated and why is this the case? Can the Department also provide how individuals are assessed for assistance as part of this funding measure? How do older Australians over 65 with a disability know that this funding exists and can be accessed?</p> | |
| SQ20-000701 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Economic & Fiscal Update July 2020 continued | <p>Please provide the following information against each of the measures included in the Economic and Fiscal Update July 2020:</p> <p>How much of the \$23 million has been spent to introduce the Serious Incident Response Scheme? Can the Department outline how this funding is being used and for what purpose? If there are funds left under this measure how much has yet to be allocated and why is this the case?</p> <p>How much of the \$3.6 million has been spent to improve access to at home palliative care and improve end of life systems in primary and community care? How many people did the Department estimate would access this funding? How many people have received services as part of this funding? Please provide a breakdown by state and territory and by Aged Care Planning Region. If there are funds left under this measure how much has yet to be allocated and why is this the case?</p> <p>How much of the \$308.8 million to support residential aged care and home care providers to prepare for and respond to the pressures on workforce supply resulting from COVID-19, including</p> | Written |

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| | | | | <p>through a Workforce Retention Bonus been spent? Please provide a breakdown of the measures that will be supported by the \$308.8 million. How many residential aged care and home care providers have been supported as part of this funding package? Please provide a breakdown of the amount of funding received by residential aged care providers, by home care providers by state and territory and by Aged Care Planning Region. How many direct care workers have received the Workforce Retention Bonus? Please provide a breakdown by residential aged care providers, by home care providers, by state and territory and by Aged Care Planning Region. If there are funds left under this measure how much has yet to be allocated and why is this the case?</p> | |
| SQ20-000702 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Economic * Fiscal Update July 2020 continued | <p>Please provide the following information against each of the measures included in the Economic and Fiscal Update July 2020:</p> <p>How much of the \$205.3 million has been allocated to residential aged care providers? Please provide a breakdown of the funding by state and territory. If there are funds left under this measure how much has yet to be allocated and why is this the case?</p> <p>How much of the \$101.2 million to support aged care providers experiencing COVID-19 outbreaks through the deployment of additional aged care staff and additional infection control support has been spent? Please provide a breakdown of the \$101.2 million and the individual measures the funding has been allocated. How many additional staff have been provided as part of this funding package? Please provide a breakdown by state and territory and the funding allocated. If there are funds left under this measure how much has yet to be allocated and why is this the case?</p> <p>How much of the \$70 million has been spent to provide access to short-term home support services through the Commonwealth Home Support Program to senior Australians who are frail or have self-isolated due to a high risk of contracting COVID-19? Please provide the total number of older Australians who have been assisted through this funding measure and provide a breakdown by state and territory. If there are funds left under this measure how much has yet to be allocated and why is this the case?</p> <p>How much of the \$59.3 million has been spent to guarantee the supply of food, including groceries and prepared meals for senior Australians who are frail or have self-isolated due to a high risk of</p> | Written |

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| | | | | contracting COVID-19? How many older Australians have received assistance as part of this funding measure? Please provide the total number and a breakdown by state and territory. Of the \$9.3 million that was allocated to emergency food boxes how many older Australians accessed an emergency food box as a total and by state and territory for the months March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November and December? | |
| SQ20-000703 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Economic & Fiscal Update July 2020 continued | <p>Please provide the following information against each of the measures included in the Economic and Fiscal Update July 2020:</p> <p>How much of the \$55.8 million has been spent to extend the Business Improvement Fund? How is or has the \$55.8 million been allocated and for what purpose(s)? Please outline how many residential aged care facilities and/or service providers have received assistance to improve their financial operations as well as the amount of funding they have received and the date they received the funding. If there are funds left under this measure how much has yet to be allocated and why is this the case? How much funding has the Department allocated from this measure to promote this funding measure to service providers?</p> <p>How much of the \$12.3 million has been spent for additional surge capacity for the My Aged Care contact centre to respond to COVID-19 enquiries? Please provide details about the purpose(s) the \$12.3 million has been used for? How many enquiries have been made to My Aged Care about COVID-19? How many additional staff have been employed from this funding measure to respond to COVID-19 enquiries? If additional staff have been employed are they full-time positions, contract positions or filled via labour hire companies?</p> <p>How has the Department been monitoring the number of International students that have been allocated to help address staff shortages? Have any international students worked in aged care during the COVID-19 pandemic. If yes, how many students have worked in aged care? If not, why not? How much funding has been allocated from the Department of Health in relation to this measure?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000704 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | RAS & ACAT Assessments | Please provide a breakdown of the total number of RAS and ACAT ASSESSMENTS for the years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and for July, August, September, October & November 2020 as well as a | Written |

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| | | | | breakdown of RAS and ACAT assessments for each month of the financial years and by state and territory. | |
| SQ20-000705 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | A Matter of Care workforce strategy | How many of the 14 measures included in the A Matter of Care workforce strategy have been fully implemented? Please provide a detailed response to the Government's progress on each of the 14 recommendations including dates, funding allocated and any other timeframes. | Written |
| SQ20-000706 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Aged Care Navigator Trials | Please provide an update on the work that is progressing as part of the Aged Care Navigator trials including the amount of funding provided to the organisation undertaking the trial and the number of service providers participating in the trial. | Written |
| SQ20-000707 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Commonwealth Home Support Program funding allocation | In Hansard on 25 November 2019 the Member for Moore outlined the amount of funding allocated to his electorate from the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP). The amount was \$3 million. Can the Department provide a breakdown of CHSP funding by total, by electorate and by state and territory for the financial years 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19? | Written |
| SQ20-000708 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Commonwealth Home Support Program transition | Can the Department provide an update on the work being undertaken in relation to the transition of the CHSP to the Home Care Packages Program? Has the Department paused any element of the transition work due to the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety's final report of because of the COVID-19 pandemic? | Written |
| SQ20-000709 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Home Care Package self-management | Can the Department confirm the number of older Australians who now self-manage their home care package? Can the Department confirm if self-management is increasing? If yes, can the Department explain why self-management of home care packages is increasing? | Written |
| SQ20-000710 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Review of home care funds | Can the Department confirm the number of times the guidelines that outline what a recipient of home care can use their funds for has been reviewed? Please provide the dates of the review and what changes were made at each review? Can the Department confirm if the service provider has any flexibility to approve any spending outside of the guidelines? For example, can the service provider approve for home care funds to be spent on landscaping, major gardening project, modifications to bathrooms or kitchens? | Written |
| SQ20-000711 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Suspended home care services | Can the Department provide the number of home care providers that suspended services in each state and territory for each month from March to December? | Written |

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| SQ20-000712 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Home Care Packages National Prioritisation Queue | Can the Department provide a breakdown of the Home Care Packages National Prioritisation Queue for 30 June 2020 quarterly report by electorate? If this can't be provided, why not? | Written |
| SQ20-000713 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Deferred home care services | Can the Department provide the number of older Australians who have deferred home care services during the COVID-19 pandemic? Please provide the number as a total, by state and territory and by month for February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November and December. | Written |
| SQ20-000714 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Home care waitlist | The Minister for Aged Care stated in Estimates on 27 October 2020 that the home care waitlist was around 98,000. Can the Department confirm how many older Australians were waiting for their approved home care package on the 27 October 2020? Please provide a breakdown of this number by state and territory, by electorate, by Aged Care Planning Region and by level of package. | Written |
| SQ20-000715 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Home care packages in the Budget | How many of the 23,000 home care packages announced in the Budget for each of levels 1, 2, 3 or 4? Please explain how \$1.6 billion has been allocated to 23,000 home care packages. How has the Department calculated the funding needed for this number of packages? How was it determined that this number of packages was required into the system? Please provide the analysis or rationale to why this is the case. Were the 23,000 home care packages a decision made by the Department by the Minister for Aged Care or by the Minister for Health? How many of the 23,000 home care packages have been allocated so far? Please provide a breakdown by level of package, by state and territory and by Aged Care Planning Region that have been allocated to date. | Written |
| SQ20-000716 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Suspended home care services | Can the ACQSC provide the number of home care provider that suspended services in each state and territory for each month from March to December and the reason(s) why these services were suspended? | Written |
| SQ20-000717 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | ACQSC Staffing | What is the ACQSCs average staffing level for 2020-21? How many people are employed under labour hire arrangements in addition to the ACQSCs ASL cap for 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21? Can the ACQSC outline the type of work people employed under labour hire arrangements are undertaking? Please provide a staffing profile that details each functional work area for 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 including the number and classification of staff in the categories of: • APS ongoing; | Written |

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| | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APS non-ongoing; • labour hire staff; and • other contractors. <p>Can the ACQSC outline what percentage is paid on top of the hourly rate for labour hire workers to the labour hire company and what services the labour hire companies are providing for that fee? How does this compare with the cost of directly employing APS staff? Can the ACQSC confirm if labour hire staff have access to paid leave if they need to self-isolate for the purposes of COVID19? Or if they become ill? Can the ACQSC detail what support has been provided to labour hire staff during COVID 19? Have there been, and are there currently issues with accessing paid pandemic leave for labour hire staff?</p> | |
| SQ20-000718 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Home care compliance | <p>How has the Commission been engaging with service providers delivering home care and home support during the COVID-19 pandemic? Please provide the total number of quality reviews that have been undertaken from January 2020 to October 2020, a total for each month and by state and territory. As at October 2020 how many service providers have yet to have a quality review? What other regulatory activities besides quality reviews has the Commission undertaken across home care providers from January 2020 to October 2020? Please provide the total number of contacts with home care service providers, for each month, by state and territory and the purpose of the ACQSCs engagement with the home care service provider.</p> <p>There were still 182 home care services who had yet to have a quality review on or around the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Can ACQSC confirm that all the 182 home care services have now had a quality review? If yes, when were these reviews completed. If not, why? How many complaints have been made to the Commission about home care and support services from January 2020 to October 2020? Please provide this information as a total, for each month, by state and territory and the nature of the complaint.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000719 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | McCarthy, Malarndirri | Physical and chemical restraint in COVID-19 | <p>How has the Commission monitored the use of physical and chemical restraints during the COVID-19 pandemic? Please provide the number of complaints made to the ACQSC about chemical and physical restraint as a total and for each month from January 2020 to October 2020?</p> | Written |

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| SQ20-000721 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | McKim, Nick | COVIDSafe advertising | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How much has been spent by the Government on advertising COVIDSafe? | Written |
| SQ20-000722 | 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection | McKim, Nick | COVIDSafe - Data Management protocols | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government said it would consider publicly releasing the data management protocols to be signed off between the Commonwealth Government and state and territory governments – as it did with the COVIDSafe source code. Why have these protocols not been publicly released? | Written |
| SQ20-000723 | 2 - Health Access and Support Services | Siewert, Rachel | Expansion of Mental Health services | <p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. Is there going to be an evaluation of the expansion of the services? Is the process for evaluation of that increased funding already established, or is it going to happen?</p> <p>Mr Roddam: It's not established at this stage.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: But you're planning to?</p> <p>Mr Roddam: It's in planning, yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Including the expansion and availability of the services and how people are finding availability of the wider range of therapists and service providers?</p> <p>Mr Roddam: We haven't really gone into a fine level of detail on the evaluation yet at this stage. I'll take it on notice, and we'll get back to you, if you like.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Thanks. Thank you, Chair. I'll shut up before I get kicked out!</p> | Page 63, 26 October |
| SQ20-000724 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Faruqi, Mehreen | DSS access to Specialist Homelessness Services Collection data | <p>Does the Department of Social Services have access to data collected via the Specialist Homelessness Services Collection?</p> <p>a) If so, for what years?</p> <p>b) If so, how much of the data collected by the SHSC is available to DSS? Please specify the data points/level of detail.</p> <p>How often has DSS requested or received data collected through the Specialist Homelessness Service Collection since January 2019? Please list all dates on which data has been requested and sent.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000725 | 1 - Health System Policy, | Faruqi, Mehreen | International Students | <p>Is data regarding international students seeking and receiving assistance from homelessness services collected under the SHSC?</p> <p>a) Have services collected or reported any data on whether students presenting to SHSs are domestic or international?</p> | Written |

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| | Design and Innovation | | | <p>b) If not, have there been any efforts to provide options for SHSs to collect and report data on whether students are domestic or international?</p> <p>c) Has the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) received requests, or is AIHW aware of requests to states and territories, to have that data collected through the SHSC?</p> <p>d) Is the AIHW in a position to request that states and territories enable SHS providers to collect this data by adding new optional domestic/international student check boxes to their data collection platforms (eg CIMS in the case of NSW)?</p> <p>i) What would be the process for enabling this?</p> | |
| SQ20-000728 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | McCarthy, Malarndirri | COVIDSafe App expenditure | <p>Can you provide a breakdown of expenditure on advertising for the COVIDSafe App?</p> <p>Is the app still being actively advertised? If yes, what is the cost to taxpayers?</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000729 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Steele-John, Jordon | Admission to Residential Aged Care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the latest figures on YPIRAC admissions to Residential Aged Care (RAC) in Australia, broken down by state or territory, and by age (0-24; 25-34; 35-44; 45-54; 55-64)? • What are the latest figures on YPIRAC living in RAC, broken down by state or territory, and by age (0-24; 25-34; 35-44; 45-54; 55-64)? | Written |
| SQ20-000730 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Steele-John, Jordon | Living in Residential Aged Care | What is the mean, range and standard deviation of current length of stay for YPIRAC still in RAC in 2019-20? | Written |
| SQ20-000731 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Steele-John, Jordon | Exits from Residential Aged Care | <p>What is the number of YPIRAC exits from RAC to/by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hospital? - Return to family/home? - Death? - More age-appropriate accommodation? - Exit to another RAC, initiated by the provider? - Exit to another RAC, initiated by the resident? - Other reasons? | Written |

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| SQ20-000732 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Steele-John, Jordon | COVID-19 Young People in Aged Care | What measures has the government put in place since the start of the pandemic to ensure that it remains on track for meeting the YPIRAC targets and gets young people out of aged care? How many people under 65 have contracted Coronavirus in aged care facilities and how many have passed away from COVID19? | Written |
| SQ20-000733 | 6 - Ageing and Aged Care | Steele-John, Jordon | ACAT Assessments for Residential Aged Care | Senate Estimates answer to QON (SQ20-00308) reports that 618 Urgent Circumstances forms were received by the NDIA from ACATs to review as at 080520. The NDIA has stated that it is monitoring the volume of UC forms received and the outcomes. How many Urgent Circumstances forms have been received since then, and how many were recommended to proceed to ACAT assessment for RAC? How many non-urgent referrals were made by ACATs to the NDIA prior to assessment and what were the outcomes? | Written |
| SQ20-000735 | 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation | Faruqi, Mehreen | Accommodation support periods | 1) Please provide a monthly national and state-by-state breakdown of people seeking and receiving assistance from SHS providers from January 2019 to September 2020 (or October 2020 if available) by: a. Total number of bed nights b. Average length of accommodation support periods c. Breakdown of length of accommodation support periods by number of weeks 2) Please also provide a national and state-by state breakdown of the data requested above for the 2017-2018, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 financial years. Note: Accommodation support periods are distinct from support periods – support periods cover the whole period of someone's engagement with a service from referral to closing off a file, and includes any support provided (case management, outreach, advocacy, general advice, accommodation). The accommodation support period just covers the bed nights someone has spent at an SHS. If it is possible to differentiate between bed nights at crisis vs transitional/other non-crisis accommodation, that would be greatly appreciated. | Written |
| SQ20-000736 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Executive Management | In relation to executive management for the Department and its agencies, can the following be provided for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020: a. The total number of executive management positions | Written |

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| | | | | <p>b. The aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</p> <p>c. The change in the number of executive manager positions.</p> <p>d. The change in aggregate total remuneration payable for all executive management positions.</p> | |
| SQ20-000737 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Ministerial Functions | <p>In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. List of functions.</p> <p>b. List of all attendees.</p> <p>c. Function venue.</p> <p>d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>e. Details of any food served.</p> <p>f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.</p> <p>g. Any available photographs of the function.</p> <p>h. Details of any entertainment provided.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000738 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Departmental Functions | <p>In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies within the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the following be provided:</p> <p>a. List of functions.</p> <p>b. List of all attendees.</p> <p>c. Function venue.</p> <p>d. Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>e. Details of any food served.</p> <p>f. Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage.</p> <p>g. Any available photographs of the function.</p> <p>h. Details of any entertainment provided.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000739 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Executive office upgrades | <p>Have any furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive).</p> | Written |

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| SQ20-000740 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Customised and special-order furniture and office supplies | For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department/agency advise the quantum spent on customised and special-ordered furniture and office supplies (excluding items such as ergonomic desks and chairs and items required for work, health and safety purposes). Please provide a full breakdown, descriptions and cost. | Written |
| SQ20-000741 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Facilities upgrades | <p>1. Were there any upgrades to facility premises at any of the Departments or agencies for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. This includes but is not limited to: staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment.</p> <p>2. If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrades be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive).</p> <p>3. If so, can any photographs of the upgraded facilities be provided.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000742 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Staff travel | What is the total cost of staff travel for departmental/agency employees for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. | Written |
| SQ20-000743 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Legal costs | What are the total legal costs for the Department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. | Written |
| SQ20-000744 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Secretarial travel | <p>Can an itemised list of the costs of all domestic and international travel undertaken by the Secretary of the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 be provided including:</p> <p>a. Flights for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the airline and class of travel.</p> <p>b. Ground transport for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials.</p> <p>c. Accommodation for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.</p> <p>d. Meals and other incidentals for the Secretary as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.</p> <p>e. Any available photographs documenting the Secretary's travel should also be provided.</p> | Written |

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| SQ20-000745 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Departmental staff allowances | Can a list of Departmental/agency allowances and reimbursements available to employees be provided. | Written |
| SQ20-000746 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Market research | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the Department/agency undertake any polling or market research in relation to government policies or proposed policies. 2. If so, can the Department provide an itemised list of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Subject matter b. Company c. Costs for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 d. Contract date period 3. Can the Department/agency advise what, if any, research was shared with the Minister or their office and the date and format in which this occurred. | Written |
| SQ20-000747 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Advertising and information campaigns | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on advertising and information campaigns for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. What advertising and information campaigns did the Department/agency run in each relevant period. For each campaign, please provide: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. When approval was first sought. b. The date of approval, including whether the advertising went through the Independent Campaign Committee process. c. the timeline for each campaign, including any variation to the original proposed timeline. 3. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all advertising and information campaign contracts in each period be provided. | Written |
| SQ20-000748 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Promotional merchandise | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on promotional merchandise for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. 2. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all promotional merchandise contracts in that period please be provided. 3. Can photographs or samples of relevant promotional merchandise please be provided. | Written |

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| SQ20-000749 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Ministerial overseas travel | <p>Can an itemised list of the costs met by the department or agency for all international travel undertaken by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020 please be provided including:</p> <p>a. Flights for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, together with the airline and class of travel.</p> <p>b. Ground transport for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials.</p> <p>c. Accommodation for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials, and identify the hotels the party stayed at and the room category in which the party stayed.</p> <p>d. Meals and other incidentals for the Minister and any accompanying members of the Minister's personal staff or family members, as well as any accompanying departmental officials. Any available menus, receipts for meals at restaurants and the like should also be provided.</p> <p>e. Any available photographs documenting the Minister's travel should also be provided.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000750 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Social media influencers | <p>1. What was the Department/agency's total expenditure on social media influencers for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>2. What advertising or information campaigns did the Department/agency use social media influencers to promote.</p> <p>3. Can a copy of all relevant social media influencer posts please be provided.</p> <p>4. Can an itemised list of all Austender Contract Notice numbers for all relevant social media influencer contracts please be provided.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000752 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Commissioned Reports and Reviews | <p>1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many Reports or Reviews have been commissioned. Please provide details of each report including:</p> <p>a. Date commissioned.</p> <p>b. Date report handed to Government.</p> <p>c. Date of public release.</p> | Written |

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| | | | | <p>d. Terms of Reference.</p> <p>e. Committee members and/or Reviewers.</p> <p>2. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost.</p> <p>3. The background and credentials of the Review personnel.</p> <p>4. The remuneration arrangements applicable to the Review personnel, including fees, disbursements and travel</p> <p>5. The cost of any travel attached to the conduct of the Review.</p> <p>6. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level.</p> <p>7. What is the current status of each report. When is the Government intending to respond to each report if it has not already done so.</p> | |
| SQ20-000753 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Board Appointments | <p>1. Provide an update of portfolio boards, including board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members.</p> <p>2. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio</p> <p>3. Please detail any board appointments made from 30 June 2020 to date.</p> <p>4. What has been the total value of all Board Director fees and disbursements paid.</p> <p>5. What is the value of all domestic travel by Board Directors.</p> <p>6. What is the value of all international travel by Board Directors.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000754 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Stationary | How much has been spent on ministerial stationery requirements in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. | Written |
| SQ20-000755 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Media Monitoring | <p>1. What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the each Minister's office for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>a. Which agency or agencies provided these services.</p> <p>b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided</p> <p>c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the FY 2020-21.</p> <p>2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>a. Which agency or agencies provided these services.</p> | Written |

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| | | | | <p>b. Can an itemised list of Austender Contract Notice numbers for any media monitoring contracts in each period please be provided</p> <p>c. What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year FY 2020-21.</p> | |
| SQ20-000756 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Departmental staff in Minister's office | <p>1. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of departmental staff seconded to ministerial offices, including:</p> <p>a. Duration of secondment.</p> <p>b. APS level.</p> <p>2. Can the Department provide an update on the total number of DLOs/CLOs for ministerial offices including APS level.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000757 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | CDDA Payments | <p>1. How many claims have been received under the Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration scheme (CDDA) by the Department for each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020?</p> <p>2. How many claims were:</p> <p>a. Accepted.</p> <p>b. Rejected.</p> <p>c. Under consideration.</p> <p>3. Of the accepted claims, can the Department provide:</p> <p>a. Details of the claim, subject to relevant privacy considerations</p> <p>b. The date payment was made</p> <p>c. The decision maker.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000758 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Recruitment | <p>1. What amount has been expended by the department/agency on external recruitment or executive search services in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>2. Which services were utilised. Can an itemised list be provided.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000759 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Staffing | <p>1. How many full-time equivalent staff were engaged at each of 30 June 2019, 30 June 2020 and at 10 November 2020.</p> <p>2. How many of these positions are (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing.</p> <p>3. How many redundancies have occurred in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020. How many were:</p> <p>a. voluntary</p> | Written |

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| | | | | <p>b. involuntary.</p> <p>4. How many of those redundancies occurred as a result of departmental restructuring. What is the total cost of those redundancies.</p> <p>5. What was the total value in dollar terms of all termination payments paid to exiting staff.</p> <p>6. How much overtime or equivalent has been paid to staff in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> <p>7. How many section 37 notices under the Public Service Act 1999 have been offered in each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> | |
| SQ20-000760 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Comcare | <p>1. For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, can the Department advise whether it has been the subject of any investigations involving Comcare. If yes, please provide details of the circumstances and the status.</p> <p>2. Can the Department advise the number of sanctions it has received from Comcare in the each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020.</p> | Written |
| SQ20-000761 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Fair Work Commission | For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Commission within the Department or agency. | Written |
| SQ20-000762 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Fair Work Ombudsman | For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Fair Work Ombudsman within the Department or agency. | Written |
| SQ20-000763 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner | For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many references have been made to the Office of the Merit Protection Commissioner within the Department or agency. | Written |
| SQ20-000764 | 0 - Whole of Portfolio | Kitching, Kimberley | Public Interest Disclosures | For each of the periods 1 July 2019-31 December 2019; 1 January 2020-30 June 2020 and 1 July 2020-30 September 2020, how many public interest disclosures have been received. | Written |