Senate Community Affairs References Committee

ANSWERS TO SENATE INQUIRY QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REVIEW

REVIEW OF THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REVIEW (PSR) SCHEME 18 October 2011

The Committee asked the Professional Services Review:

For the years 2006/07 to 2010/11:

- Of all the practitioners who were offered a s92 agreement by the Director, how many chose not to accept it and to proceed to a committee of their peers?
- Of all the practitioners who requested a s92 agreement, how many chose not to accept it and to proceed to a committee of their peers?

We would be grateful if the figures could include actual numbers as well as percentages.

Answer

In the period 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2011 there were 159 matters in which negotiations in relation to a section 92 Agreement occurred. 147 of these matters were resolved through a section 92 Agreement and the remaining 12 matters were referred to a Committee.

In the 12 matters where a Committee was established following attempted negotiations, nine matters involved a practitioner who had proposed a section 92 Agreement and three matters involved a practitioner who was offered a section 92 Agreement.

In six of these matters (3.7 per cent of the 159 matters involving negotiation) the practitioners who entered the negotiation process chose to have their matter heard by a Committee of peers. In the remaining six matters (3.7 per cent) the Director decided to refer the practitioner to a Committee of peers.

Dr Bill Coote

Acting Director

Professional Services Review

/8 October 2011