

**Community Affairs
Legislation Committee**

Examination of Budget Estimates 2004-2005

Additional Information Received

VOLUME 6

Outcomes: whole of portfolio, Outcomes 1, 2, 7, 8, 9

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

FEBRUARY 2005

Note: Where published reports, etc have been provided in response to questions, they have not been included in the Additional Information volume in order to conserve resources.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATING TO THE EXAMINATION OF BUDGET EXPENDITURE FOR 2004-2005

Included in this volume are answers to written questions on notice relating to Order of
Senate dated 18 November 2004

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

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Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-045

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: PROCUREMENT POLICY DOCUMENTATION

Written Question on Notice

Senator Murray asked:

For the Department and each Agency within the portfolio:

- (a) When did the Department last update its procurement policy documentation?
- (b) What mechanisms does the Department have in place to ensure its procurement guidelines reflect current policy in relation to government contracting?
- (c) Do the Department's current procurement guidelines refer to all of the following accountability mechanisms:
 - (i) The Senate order for departmental and agency contracts;
 - (ii) The Department of Finance and Administration's February 2003 Guidance on Confidentiality of Contractors' Commercial Information; and
 - (iii) The Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines (CPGs)?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Ageing (and the following portfolio agencies using the Department's procurement infrastructure that are also subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, i.e. the Therapeutic Goods Administration, the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator, the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme, the National Health and Medical Research Council, the Professional Services Review and the Office of the Commissioner for Complaints) can advise the Senator as follows:

- (a) The Department regularly reviews its procurement policy documentation. The last major review of the Department's Procurement Manual was completed in October 2004. Current review activity is directed at ensuring the Department's policy accurately reflects the revised Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines which will apply from 1 January 2005.

- (b) The Department receives instructions from central agencies - principally the Department of Finance and Administration (DoFA). These instructions are examined to identify areas of departmental policy that may need resulting amendment. The instructions are also distributed widely throughout the Department. Additionally the Department's key procurement specialists attend seminars hosted by DoFA on procurement issues and provide feedback to DoFA on procurement policy changes.
- (c) (i) Yes – in the Department's Procurement Manual.
(ii) Yes – in the Department's Procurement Manual.
(iii) Yes – in the Department's Procurement Manual.

The National Blood Authority (NBA), subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, can advise the Senator as follows:

- (a) The National Blood Authority was established in July 2003 and operated under the Department of Health and Ageing's procurement policy until October 2003 when the NBA developed its own Chief Executive Instructions. Since October 2003 the NBA has been developing a suite of processes and practices to support and improve procurement.
- (b) The NBA receives instructions from central agencies - principally the Department of Finance and Administration (DoFA). These instructions are examined to identify areas of policy that may need resulting amendment. The instructions are also distributed widely throughout the NBA. Additionally the key procurement specialists and relevant staff attend seminars hosted by DoFA on procurement issues and provide feedback to DoFA on procurement policy changes.
- (c) (i) Yes – in the Chief Executive Instructions.
(ii) Yes – in the Chief Executive Instructions.
(iii) Yes – in the Chief Executive Instructions.

The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, can advise the Senator as follows:

- (a) ARPANSA regularly reviews its procurement policy documentation. The Agency is currently undertaking a major review of procurement policy and procedures to ensure compliance with the revised Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines.
- (b) ARPANSA receives instructions from the Department of Finance and Administration. These instructions are examined jointly by our finance and legal areas to determine necessary amendments.
- (c) (i) Yes.
(ii) Yes.
(iii) Yes.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-046

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: TENDER DOCUMENTATION AND CONTRACT TEMPLATES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Murray asked:

For the Department and each Agency within the portfolio:

Do the Department's tender documentation and contract templates include the following elements:

- (a) a statement outlining the various Commonwealth accountability requirements;
- (b) a consistent definition of confidential information across all templates;
- (c) a provision for the inclusion of specific reasons justifying why a tenderer may wish to protect certain information in the contract if it awarded;
- (d) a section that outlines the obligations of confidentiality after the contract has been awarded;
- (e) a more detailed outline, with the general non-disclosure clauses, of the exceptions to confidentiality obligations for Commonwealth contracts; and
- (f) the model contract clauses, given in DOFA's February 2003 Guidance on Confidentiality of Contractor's Commercial Information?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Ageing (and the following portfolio agencies using the Department's procurement infrastructure that are also subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, i.e. the Therapeutic Goods Administration, the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator, the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme, the National Health and Medical Research Council, the Professional Services Review, and the Office of the Commissioner for Complaints) can advise the Senator as follows:

- (a) Yes, in relation to the tender documentation. The main contract templates include provisions about the Commonwealth's accountability requirements. The exceptions are two short form contract templates which are used in limited circumstances (including where the amount of the contract is \$30,000 or less). These templates are either currently being reviewed or are due to be reviewed in the first half of 2005.

- (b) Yes.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) No. However if a contractor claims confidentially, and the Department accepts the claim, then an appropriate clause is included in the contract.
- (e) No. However if a contractor claims confidentially then assessment of that claim includes whether exemptions apply.
- (f) No, although the clauses used in most of the Department's contract templates are consistent with the DoFA model contract clauses. The exception being the clauses in the short form contract templates referred to in answer (a) above.

The National Blood Authority (NBA) subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, can advise the Senator as follows:

- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) Yes.
- (e) Yes.
- (f) Yes, the clauses used in the NBA standard contracts are closely based on the model contract clauses.

The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) subject to the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, can advise the Senator as follows:

ARPANSA's response to the Senator's question is largely similar to that of the Department. ARPANSA uses a standard short form contract for smaller contracts where the value is \$20,000 or less. ARPANSA is currently reviewing standard contract terms to reflect the revised CPGs.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-047

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: TRAINING FOR PROCUREMENT STAFF

Written Question on Notice

Senator Murray asked:

For the Department and all agencies constituted under it:

At page 51 of ANAO Audit Report No. 10 2004-2005, The Senate Order for Departmental and Agency Contracts (Calendar Year 2003 Compliance), the ANAO has concluded that all FMA Agencies would benefit from implementation of contract training courses, or a review of current courses, to ensure that the Senate order requirements are adequately covered and that procurement staff receive relevant DOFA guidance.

- (a) What training does the Department currently have in place for procurement staff?
- (b) Does this training cover the requirements of the Senate order for departmental and agency contracts and refer to DOFA's February 2003 Guidance on Confidentiality of Contractor's Commercial information?

Answer:

- (a) The Department maintains a range of internal and external training for its procurement staff. Internal training includes a procurement overview and a procurement workshop as well as an introduction to contracts. The Department also has staff undertaking Certificate IV in Government (Procurement and Contracting) through an external training provider. All such training is available to divisions of the Department however is not extended to departmental agencies.
- (b) The Department's internal procurement training material refers to the Senate order for departmental and agency contracts. Additionally, the Department's intranet site, internal instructions and job aids (including a procurement manual) provide staff with information on DOFA's February 2003 Guidance on Confidentiality of Contractor's Commercial information.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-049

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: OUTCOMES FOR CLIENTS FROM DIVERSE LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

Please answer with respect to both the Department and all agencies constituted under it.

- (a) For each of the i) 1999-00, ii) 2000-01, iii) 2001-02, iv) 2002-03, v) 2003-04 financial years, did the Department include in its annual report a report on outcomes achieved for clients from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds?
- (b) If not, for each of the i) 1999-00, ii) 2000-01, iii) 2001-02, iv) 2002-03, v) 2003-04 financial years, did the Department otherwise publish a report on outcomes achieved for clients from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds? (If yes, please supply report)
- (c) For each of the i) 1999-00, ii) 2000-01, iii) 2001-02, iv) 2002-03, v) 2003-04 financial years, did the Department budget for costs associated with developing culturally responsive and accessible services?
- (d) For the 2003-04 financial year, how much did the Department budget for this purpose?

Answer:

- (a-b) The Department does not include in its Annual Report a specific report on outcomes achieved for clients from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Information relating to these outcomes is incorporated into relevant chapters.

The Department and those agencies subject to the *Public Service Act 1999* contribute to the Access and Equity Annual Report prepared by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs. Copies of these reports are available at http://www.immi.gov.au/annual_report/index.htm.

In addition, the Department does produce annually *The Report on the Operation of the Aged Care Act*. In this Report, a section is dedicated to older people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Copies of these Reports are available at <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/wcms/publishing.nsf/Content/ageing-reports-acarep.htm-copy2>. The Report for 2003-04 has not yet been released.

- (c) One of the key goals in the Department's Corporate Plan is Equitable access – Improving the delivery of high quality health services for all Australians where and when they need them. It is therefore a guiding factor in the development and implementation of all the Department's policies and programs that they are responsive and accessible to people from diverse cultural backgrounds. In some cases, funds are specifically allocated for this purpose. In others, funds are not specifically allocated but may come from within the overall allocation to the service/program.
- (d) Funds allocated specifically for this purpose in 2003-04 totalled \$215,182,478 spent across the following divisions/agencies: Ageing and Aged Care Division; Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health; National Health and Medical Research Council; Population Health Division; and the Private Health Insurance Ombudsman. As indicated at (c) above, this is not indicative of the total cost associated with ensuring that the Department's programs and services are appropriate and responsive to a culturally diverse clientele.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-050

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES DELIVERED VIA AN INTERMEDIARY SERVICE PROVIDER

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

For all of the following questions, please answer with respect to both the Department and all agencies constituted under it.

- (e) For each of the i) 1999-00, ii) 2000-01, iii) 2001-02, iv) 2002-03, v) 2003-04 financial years, how many Departmental programs or services were delivered via an intermediary service provider, such as another level of government or a non-government organisation?
- (f) Of these, in each financial year how many did the funding conditions in contracts specify relevant access and equity accountabilities (for example, collection and reporting of information on client characteristics)?
- (g) For each of these, is the provision a standard clause?
- (h) If there is no standard provision, is a copy of the provision available for each of these? Are the provisions subsequently audited? If yes, what were the results (please supply)?

Answer:

- (a-d) The Department of Health and Ageing does not generally deliver services direct to the public. Programs and services funded through the Department are usually delivered through an intermediary service provider, such as another level of government or a non-government organisation, under the terms and conditions of either a funding or service agreement. The number of programs or services delivered by intermediary service providers is significant.

The Department has a Standard Funding Agreement (SFA), introduced in 2002, which is a template agreement used in situations such as where funding is provided to third parties to deliver a program or service to the community. The SFA does not contain specific terms and conditions relating to the issue of access and equity accountabilities. Specific requirements, such as provisions relating to the ability of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to access services and provisions relating to the reporting of access to services by particular client groups, are specified in the schedule to the agreement as required. Provisions may vary greatly from agreement to agreement.

Given the significant number of agreements administered by the Department, the collection and provision of the information you have requested would require an undue diversion of substantial resources. On this basis, it is not proposed to provide further details in relation to these questions.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-051

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: COMMUNITY INFORMATION PUBLICATIONS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Joe Ludwig asked:

For all of the following questions, please answer with respect to both the Department and all agencies constituted under it.

- (10) Can the Department provide a current list of each community information publications it publishes in English as at (a) the current date (2 December 2004) or if this is unavailable (b) 30 June, 2004 (and take from then to 2 December 2004 On Notice) or if this is unavailable (c) 1 January 2004 (and take from then to 2 December 2004 On Notice) or if this is unavailable (d) the last date for which they were available (specify date and take from then to 2 December 2004 On Notice)?
- (11) For the above list, what publications are translated into languages other than English and for each, what languages are they translated into?
- (12) For the above list, how many copies were printed?
- (13) For the above list, what was the total cost of each document in translation, publication, printing and distribution?

Answer:

(10), (11), (12), and (13)

The Department of Health & Ageing cannot provide a comprehensive list of community information publications, the languages in which they were produced, the number of copies printed, nor the cost of each document. An exhaustive audit of all publications produced by the department would be extremely time-consuming and costly. On this basis, it is not possible to answer these questions.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-052

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING BACKGROUND PERSONNEL

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

- (a) What efforts has the Department made to identify employees from a non-English speaking background and what languages they are fluent in?
- (b) What proportion of the Department's personnel have a non-English speaking background?
- (c) For each language other than English that the Department has identified employees with fluency, can the Department provide how employees were fluent? For each language other than English, how many were identified as being fluent?
- (d) Of these employees, what efforts has the department made to identify the language proficiency of these employees? For each language other than English, how many were identified as having proficiency?
- (e) Of these employees, how many has the Department identified as possessing accredited language skills to either translator or interpreter standard? For each language other than English, how many were identified as having accreditation at the i) translator and (ii) interpreter level?
- (f) Of these employees, how many has the Department funded in whole or in part accreditation of language skills to either a) translator and b) interpreter level?

Answer:

- (a) Information is collected from the new starter's induction record which is completed on commencement with the Department. Existing staff are able to record their non-English speaking background status on the Department's HR system through Employee Self Service. No record is kept of what languages staff may be fluent in.
- (b) A total of 7.92% of staff have identified themselves as being from a non-English speaking background.
- (c) – (e)
The Department is unable to provide information in response to these questions as the Department does not keep records of which languages staff may be fluent in.
- (f) The Department does not fund any accreditation of language skills.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-053

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: TRANSLATOR AND INTERPRETER - ENGAGEMENT AND SPENDING

Written Question on Notice

Senator Joe Ludwig asked:

For all of the following questions, please answer with respect to both the Department and all agencies constituted under it.

- (a) How much did the department spend engaging language i) translator and ii) interpreter level in each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04?
- (b) How many times did the department engage an i) translator and ii) interpreter in each of the following years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04?
- (c) For each language in which i) a translator and ii) an interpreter was engaged, how many engagements occurred in each of the following years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04?
- (d) What was the total cost of those engagements by language for i) translators and ii) interpreters in each of the following years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04?

Answer:

The department uses a range of strategies to communicate with people from non-English speaking backgrounds. These strategies include the availability of a telephone interpreter service through the department's call centre; production of publications in various languages and the availability of language versions that can be downloaded from the department's website; and engaging non-English communication specialists to provide specific communication activities to support communication campaigns, including translation and interpreter services.

Services are engaged separately by the various divisions and agencies of the department, and the breakdown of the information sought is not available in all divisions and agencies. The information provided in the answers is therefore qualified by the following factors:

- The data presented is not complete and relates only to those areas of the Department where this information is captured in the required format.
- Some records did not state the languages utilised, therefore the tables in parts (c) and (d) do not include all data included in parts (a) and (b).
- A single service may involve more than one language.
- Some records do not discriminate between translator and interpreter services.

(a)

Translator			Interpreter		
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)
2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
257,028.70	19827.60	356,382.41	731.17	18602.25	26,548.71

(b)

(a) Translator			(b) Interpreter		
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)
2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
3	6	5	21	34	70

(c)

	Translator			Interpreter		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Anmaterr					3	
Arabic	2	1	2		4	6
Armenian					1	
Bahasa Indonesian		1				
Bosnian					1	1
Cambodian	1					
Cantonese				2	8	11
Chinese	2		1			4
Croatian	2		1			
Dari						3
Eastern Arrernte					1	
Filipino/Tagalog	1					
Finnish						2
French		1				
Greek	2		1		1	9
Hindi	1				2	
Hungarian						2
Indonesian	1					2
Italian	2		1	1	4	9
Japanese					1	2
Korean				1		6
Macedonian	2		1			
Mandarin				5	6	20
Persian						4
Russian	1		1		2	2
Serbian	2		1	1		3
Spanish	2		1		6	7
Thai	1					1
Turkish	1					1
Vietnamese	2		1	1	2	8
Walpiri					1	
Unspecified	1	2	5		4	1

(d)

Language	Translator			Interpreter		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Anmaterr					240.00	
Arabic	5927.38	426.25	171.32		320.55	151.90
Armenian					340.27	
Bahasa Indonesian		6425.10				
Bosnian					21.70	21.70
Cambodian	5786.36					
Cantonese				34.70	1273.90	1089.89
Chinese	5927.38	426.25	171.32			5177.50
Croatian	5927.38	426.25	171.32			
Dutch		426.25	65.70			
Dari						65.10
Eastern Arrernte					120.00	
Filipino/Tagalog	5786.36					
Finnish						383.68
French		1600.00				
German		426.50	65.70			
Greek	5927.38	426.25	171.32		110.00	829.21
Hindi	5786.36				43.40	
Hungarian		426.25	65.70			164.00
Indonesian	5786.36					1495.40
Italian	5927.38	426.25	171.32	34.70	1257.55	1882.55
Japanese			4000.00		21.70	165.00
Khmer			491.95			
Korean		426.25	65.70	9.09		652.50
Macedonian	5927.38	426.25	171.32			
Maltese		426.25	65.70			
Mandarin				118.80	167.68	659.89
Persian						86.80
Polish		426.25	65.70			
Russian	141.02	426.25	171.32		256.46	510.90
Serbian	5927.38	426.25	171.32	17.35		493.40
Spanish	5927.38	426.25	171.32		1650.17	2583.00
Thai	5786.36					1452.00
Turkish	5786.36	426.25	65.70			43.40
Ukrainian		426.25	65.70			
Vietnamese	5927.38	426.25	171.32	14.10	43.40	274.00
Walpiri					120.00	
Unspecified	168823.00		61808.00		708.59	178.00

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-054

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: ADVERTISING

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

For all of the following questions, please answer with respect to both the Department and all agencies constituted under it.

- (a) For each of the financial years i) 1995-96, ii) 1996-97, iii) 1997-98, iv) 1998-99, v) 1999-00, vi) 2000-01, vii) 2001-02, viii) 2002-03, ix) 2003-04 how much was spent in advertising or advertorial in the ethnic press?
- (b) For each of the above years, could the Department please specify each title, in which advertising was bought, the language of that title and the total annual spend on advertising and advertorial in each title.
- (c) For each of the financial years i) 1995-96, ii) 1996-97, iii) 1997-98, iv) 1998-99, v) 1999-00, vi) 2000-01, vii) 2001-02, viii) 2002-03, ix) 2003-04 how much was spent in advertising and or advertorials on ethnic radio? For each financial year, could the Department please specify which station, broadcast language and how much was spent on each language at each station?

Answer:

(a) – (c)

Data on government advertising are held by the Government Communications Unit at the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. The Government Communications Unit advises that records on expenditure are incomplete for the period required. For the periods where data are held this is not in a format readily adaptable to the question and would consequently take an undue diversion of resources to prepare. On this basis it is not proposed to answer these questions.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-055

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: BREAK-INS ON DEPARTMENTAL PROPERTY

Written Questions on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

For all the following questions, please answer with respect to both the Department and all agencies constituted under it.

How many break-ins were there on Departmental property in 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04? For each incident:

- a) What was the location and the cost of damage associated with each break-in?
- b) What was the cost of damage conducted during each break-in?
- c) What was the subject of theft in each break-in?
- d) What was the cost of any theft associated with each break-in?
- e) Was anyone charged with the break-in (specify if they were employed by the Department)?

Answer:

A summary of the number of break-ins for the financial years 2000-01 to 2003-04 is as follows:

Financial Year	Number of Break-ins
2000-01	6
2001-02	6
2002-03	4
2003-04	14

(a) – (d)

Responses for these questions are provided in the tables below. Where the information requested is not available, a response of Not Available (N/A) has been provided.

2000-01 Break-in Details

Location of Break-in	Cost of Damage	Subject of Theft	Cost of Theft associated with Break-in
Bonner House, Woden, ACT	Nil	Various items	\$870
Bonner House, Woden, ACT	\$460	Money	\$48
Borrowdale House, Woden, ACT	\$1,695	Various Items	\$1,393
Miranda, NSW	\$600	Mobile Phone	\$200
Swish Building, Deakin, ACT	\$5,334	Nil	Nil
Swish Building, Deakin, ACT	\$836	N/A	Nil

2001-02 Break-in Details

Location of Break-in	Cost of Damage	Subject of Theft	Cost of Theft associated with Break-in
Yarralumla, ACT	N/A	N/A	N/A
Yarralumla, ACT	\$460	Dell Laptop Computer & Desktop Computer	\$7,051
Yarralumla, ACT	\$460	Dell desktop Computer	\$2,036
Yarralumla, ACT	\$460	Computer Mouse X 2	\$100
Casselden Place, Melbourne, VIC	Nil	TV Receiver	\$2,000
Pitt Street, Sydney	\$600	Nil	Nil

2002-03 Break-in Details

Location of Break-in	Cost of Damage	Subject of Theft	Cost of Theft associated with Break-in
CRS Australia, ACT Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
CRS Australia, NSW Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
CRS Australia, NSW Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
123 Lonsdale St, Melbourne, VIC	\$1,607	Various Items	\$1,800

2003-2004 Break-in Details

Location of Break-in	Cost of Damage	Subject of Theft	Cost of Theft associated with Break-in
Borrowdale House, Woden, ACT	\$300	N/A	NIL
CRS Australia, WA Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
CRS Australia, WA Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
CRS Australia, WA Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
CRS Australia, NSW Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
CRS Australia, NSW Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
CRS Australia, NSW Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
CRS Australia, NSW Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
CRS Australia, VIC Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
CRS Australia, VIC Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
CRS Australia, TAS Office	N/A	General Office Supplies & Assets	N/A
Department QLD State Office	N/A	IT and Personal Items	N/A
NSW State Office	\$600	Nil	Nil
ARPANSA, Yallambie, VIC	\$3,000	Nil	Nil

(e)

Central records for whether anyone was charged with the break-in are not kept.

To undertake further investigation would take an undue diversion of resources with no guarantee of any further information being found. On this basis we cannot provide a response to this question.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-056

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: DEPARTMENTAL PROPERTY THEFTS

Written Questions on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

For all the following questions, please answer with respect to both the Department and all agencies constituted under it.

How many thefts of Departmental property occurred in 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04?
For each incident:

- a) What was stolen in each instance?
- b) What was the value of the stolen item/s?
- c) Where was it stolen from?
- d) Was anyone charged with the theft (specify if they were employed by the Department)?
- e) Was anyone convicted of the theft (specify if they were employed by the Department)?
- f) Were any of the items recovered?

Answer:

A summary of the number of thefts for the financial years 2000-01 to 2003-04 is as follows:

Financial Year	Number of Thefts
2000-01	18
2001-02	17
2002-03	13
2003-04	26

(a) – (c)

Responses for these questions are provided in the tables below. Where the information is not available a response of Not Available (N/A) has been provided.

2000-01 Theft Details

Item	Value of Item Stolen	Where From
Various items	\$870	Bonner House, Woden, ACT
Cash	\$48	Bonner House, Woden, ACT
Ericsson Mobile Phone	\$135	Bonner House, Woden, ACT
Ericsson Mobile Phone	\$183	Bonner House, Woden, ACT
Ericsson Mobile Phone	\$204	Bonner House, Woden, ACT
Various items	\$1,393	Borrowdale House, Woden, ACT
Motorola 2 Way Radio	\$1,244	Borrowdale House, Woden, ACT
Remote Security Pass	\$100	Borrowdale House, Woden, ACT
Phone Charger	\$49	Borrowdale House, Woden, ACT
Mobile Phone	\$200	ARPANSA - Miranda, NSW
6 Boxes Copypaper	N/A	Fishburn House, Woden, ACT
Sony Walkman	\$60	Penrhyn House, Woden, ACT
Palm Pilot	N/A	Residence in Isaacs, ACT
Phillips Mobile Phone	N/A	Residence in Isaacs, ACT
Video Cassette Recorder	\$300	Albemarle Building, Woden, ACT
Mobile Phone	\$215	Pharmacy Guild House, Barton, ACT
19 Boxes Copypaper	N/A	Woden ACT
IBM Workpad C3	\$670	Private Residence Tasmanian State Manager

2001-02 Theft Details

Item	Value of Item Stolen	Where From
N/A	N/A	Yarralumla, ACT
Dell laptop and desktop computer	\$7,051	Yarralumla, ACT
Dell desktop computer	\$2,036	Yarralumla, ACT
Computer mouse x 2	\$100	Yarralumla, ACT
Motorola Mobile Phone	\$218	Pharmacy Guild House, Barton, ACT
Nokia Mobile Phone and Charger	\$500	Corinna Street, Woden, ACT
Keys	N/A	From Parked Vehicle
Nokia 5510 Mobile Phone	\$214	Albemarle Building, Woden, ACT
Nokia Mobile Phone	N/A	Albemarle Building, Woden, ACT
Nokia Mobile Phone	\$200	Albemarle Building, Woden, ACT
Computer Software	\$150	Albemarle Building, Woden, ACT
Ericsson Mobile Phone	N/A	Residence in Red Hill, ACT
Motorola Two Way Radios (2)	\$3,630	Penrhyn House, Woden, ACT
Gregory Synchrome High Back Office Chair	N/A	Penryhn House, Woden, ACT
Television	\$2,000	Casselden Place, Melbourne, VIC
Mobile Phone & Charger	\$200	340 Adelaide St, Brisbane, QLD
Palm Pilot & Mobile Phone	\$1,254	Private Health Club

2002-03 Theft Details

Item	Value of Item Stolen	Where From
Computer	\$2,000	CRS Australia, QLD Office
PC Ram	\$300	CRS Australia, QLD Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, ACT Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, NSW Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, NSW Office
Various items	\$1,800	123 Lonsdale St, Melbourne
Nokia Mobile Phone	\$591	123 Lonsdale St, Melbourne
Hand Trolley	\$280	123 Lonsdale St, Melbourne
Home Safe	\$472	123 Lonsdale St, Melbourne
Modem 56K USB	\$149	123 Lonsdale St, Melbourne
3 boxes Copypaper	N/A	Alexander Building, Woden, ACT
Nokia Mobile Phone	\$565	Alexander Building, Woden, ACT
Modem	N/A	Penryhn House, Woden, ACT

2003-04 Theft Details

Item	Value of Item Stolen	Where From
Video camera	\$2,000	CRS Australia, QLD Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	CRS Australia, QLD Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, NSW Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, NSW Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, NSW Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, NSW Office
Mobile Phones	\$400	CRS Australia, NSW Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	CRS Australia, NSW Office
Cabcharge books, Mobile Phone	\$170 & \$200	CRS Australia, WA Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, WA Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, WA Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, WA Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	CRS Australia, VIC Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	CRS Australia, VIC Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	CRS Australia, VIC Office
Petty Cash	\$86	CRS Australia, VIC Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, VIC Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, VIC Office
General office supplies and assets	N/A	CRS Australia, TAS Office
Digital Camera	\$800	NT State Office
Wrist Rest	N/A	Alexander Building, Woden, ACT
Nokia Mobile Phone	N/A	From Vehicle in Private Driveway
Nokia Mobile Phone	N/A	Albemarle Building, Woden, ACT
13 Cabcharge Vouchers	N/A	Penrhyn House, Woden, ACT
Key Pads	\$160	Corinna Street, Woden, ACT
Mobile Phone	\$600	Hotel Room, Overseas

(d) – (f)

Central records to identify if anyone was charged with the theft, and if anyone was convicted or if any of the items were recovered, are not kept. To undertake any further investigation would take an undue diversion of resources with no guarantee of any further information being found. On this basis we cannot provide a response for these questions.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-057

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: INCIDENTS OF FRAUD

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

For all of the following questions, please answer with respect to both the Department and all agencies constituted under it.

How many incidents of fraud were detected against the Department in 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04? For each incident:

- a) What was the subject of the fraud in each instance?
- b) What was the value of the fraud?
- c) Which administrative unit was the subject of the fraud?
- d) Was anyone charged with the fraud (specify if they were employed by the Department)?
- e) Was anyone convicted of the fraud (specify if they were employed by the Department)?
- f) Were any of the defrauded items or was any of the defrauded money recovered?

Answer:

The number of incidents of fraud against the Department which were detected were:

2000-01:	16
2001-02:	11
2002-03:	5
2003-04:	10

The answers to parts a) to f) of this question are in the table at Attachment A.

Not all of the portfolio agencies have records covering all of the period covered by this question. The only known fraud within this timeframe including a Portfolio agency was in Food Standards Australia New Zealand in 2003-04. The answers to the specific questions for this incident are:

- a) false invoices
- b) approximately \$40,000
- c) FSANZ
- d) Yes – a FSANZ employee
- e) Yes – a FSANZ employee
- f) \$40,000.

ATTACHMENT A

Financial Year 2000-01

a) Subject	b) Value	c) Unit*	d) Charged	e) Convicted	f) Recovery
Misuse of grant funds	No loss to Commonwealth established	OATSIH	No	No	No
Misuse of information	No financial loss	MPSD	No	No	N/A
Forgery	No loss to Commonwealth established	AACD	No	No	N/A
Misuse of information	No financial loss	MPSD	No	No	N/A
Misuse of grant funds	Amount of any loss not determined	OATSIH	No	No	No
Misuse of grant funds	No loss to Commonwealth established	OATSIH	No	No	No
Misuse of cabcharges	Approximately \$150	BG	Disciplinary action	No	Yes \$150
False claims for subsidies	No loss to the Commonwealth established	AACD	No	No	N/A
Misuse of information	No financial loss	BG	Disciplinary action	No	N/A
Overclaiming by consultant	Approximately \$1,000	BG	No	No	Yes \$1,000
Forgery	No financial loss	AACD	No	No	N/A
Forgery	No loss to Commonwealth established	AACD	No	No	N/A
False claim for benefit	Approximately \$2,000	AACD	No	No	Yes \$2,000
Misuse of grant funds	No loss to Commonwealth established	OATSIH	No	No	No
Misuse of cabcharges	Approximately \$2,000	OATSIH	Disciplinary action	No	Yes \$2,000
False papers in claim for Aged Care places	No loss incurred	AACD	Yes (Not employee)	No – caution issued	N/A

Financial Year 2001-02

a) Subject	b) Value	c) Unit	d) Charged	e) Convicted	f) Recovery
Credit card fraud	Approximately \$600	BG	No	No	No
False invoice	\$107, not paid	BG	No	No	N/A
False invoice	\$3500	BG	Yes (Employee)	Yes (Employee)	\$3500
Misuse of grant funds	Approximately \$30,000	OATSIH	Yes (Not employee)	Yes (Not employee)	No
Forged documents	No loss to Commonwealth established	AACD	No	No	N/A
Misuse of cabcharges	\$4,200	BG	Disciplinary action	No	\$4,200
Misuse of cabcharges	\$1,650	AFCB	Yes (Employee)	Yes (Employee)	\$1650
Forgery	No financial loss	MPSD	No	No	N/A
False information in grant application	No financial loss	ONHMRC	No	No	N/A
False documents	No loss to Commonwealth established	AACD	No	No	N/A
Misuse of assets	No significant loss	BG	No	No	N/A

Financial Year 2002-03

a) Subject	b) Value	c) Unit	d) Charged	e) Convicted	f) Recovery
False claims for benefits	Approximately \$150,000	MPSD	No	No	No
Misuse of grants	No loss to Commonwealth established	OATSIH	No	No	N/A
Misuse of funds	Approximately \$70,000	PHD	No	No	In progress
Misuse of information	No financial loss	TGA	No	No	N/A
False claim for benefit	\$50	AACD	Disciplinary action	No	\$50

Financial Year 2003-04

a) Subject	b) Value	c) Unit	d) Charged	e) Convicted	f) Recovery
Misuse of information	No financial loss	AACD	Yes (Employee)	Yes (Employee)	N/A
Forgery	No financial loss	BG	No	No	N/A
False invoice	No financial loss	TGA	No	No	N/A
False claim for benefits	Amount of any loss was not established	AACD	No	No	No
Misuse of information	No financial loss	MPSD	No	No	N/A
Misuse of information	No financial loss	AACD	No	No	N/A
False invoice	No financial loss	BG	No	No	N/A
Misuse of information	No financial loss	TGA	No	No	N/A
False claim for benefit	No financial loss	MPSD	No	No	N/A
Misuse of grant funds	Still being determined, but may be approximately \$400,000	PCD	On-going	On-going	On-going

* The administrative units are those which are currently responsible for the function in which the fraud was detected.

AACD – Ageing and Aged Care Division

AFCB – Audit and Fraud Control Branch

BG – Business Group

MPSD – Medical and Pharmaceutical Services Division

OATSIH – Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

ONHMRC – Office of National Health and Medical Research Council

PHD – Population Health Division

TGA – Therapeutic Goods Administration

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-058

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: INCIDENTS OF LOSS OF DEPARTMENTAL PROPERTY

Written Questions on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

For all the following questions, please answer with respect to both the Department and all agencies constituted under it.

How many incidents of loss (excluding theft, accident, breakage and vandalism) of Departmental property were reported to the Department in 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04? For each incident:

- a) What was the loss in each instance?
- b) What was the value of the loss?
- c) Which administrative unit lost the property?
- d) Were any of the lost item/s recovered?
- e) Was anyone disciplined over the loss?

Answer:

A summary of the number of incidents of loss of property for the financial years 2000-01 to 2003-04 as follows.

Financial Year	Number of Incidents of Loss of Property
2000-01	5
2001-02	6
2002-03	7
2003-04	13

(a) – (c)

Responses for these questions are provided in the tables below. Where the information requested is not available a response of Not Available (N/A) has been provided.

2000-01 Property Loss Details

Item	Value	Administrative Unit Concerned
Ericsson Mobile	\$387	Population Health Division
Nokia Mobile Phone	N/A	Corporate Services Division
Keys	N/A	Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
Phillips Mobile Phone	N/A	Aged Care Division
Nokia Mobile Phone	N/A	Corporate Services Division

2001-02 Property Loss Details

Item	Value	Administrative Unit Concerned
Mobile Phone	\$400	N/A
Nokia Mobile Phone	N/A	N/A
Nokia Mobile Phone	\$200	Corporate Services Division
Mobile Phone	\$363	Food Standards Australia
Mobile Phone	\$215	Food Standards Australia
Nokia Mobile Phone	\$370	Health Services Division

2002-2003 Property Loss Details

Item	Value	Administrative Unit Concerned
Nokia Mobile Phone	\$197	Business Group
Nokia Mobile Phone	\$295	Business Group
Nokia Mobile Phone	N/A	Business Group
Mobile Phone	\$200	SA State Office
Projector	\$3,000	NSW State Office

Mobile Phone	\$200	VIC State Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	VIC State Office

2003-04 Property Loss Details

Item	Value	Administrative Unit Concerned
Cabcharge Card	N/A	ACT Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	VIC State Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	VIC State Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	VIC State Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	VIC State Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	VIC State Office
Video Camera	\$2,000	QLD State Office
Mobile Phone	\$200	QLD State Office
Video Camera	18 Y.O. No Residual Value	NSW State Office
Mobile Phone	\$250	NSW State Office
Mobile Phone	\$300	Primary Care Division
Departmental Mastercard	N/A	Professional Services Review
Mobile Phone	\$524	Food Standards Australia
Mobile Phone	\$408	Food Standards Australia

(d) – (e)

Central records to ascertain if any of the items were recovered or anyone disciplined over the loss, are not kept. To undertake any further investigation would take an undue diversion of resources with no guarantee of any further information being found. On this basis we cannot provide a response for these questions.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-059

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: VEHICULAR ACCIDENTS INVOLVING DEPARTMENTAL VEHICLES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

For all of the following questions, please answer with respect to both the Department and all agencies constituted under it.

How many vehicular accidents in which departmental vehicles (including vehicles leased by the department) were involved were reported to the department in 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04? For each incident:

- a) What was the value of the damage?
- b) Which administrative unit was the vehicle attached to?
- c) Was anyone charged over the accident (specify charges)?

Answer:

(a) and (b) Responses to these questions are provided in the table below.

Area	2000-01 Accidents	2000-01 \$ Value	2001-02 Accidents	2001-02 \$ Value	2002-03 Accidents	2002-03 \$ Value	2003-04 Accidents	2004 \$ Value
AACD	1	1,630	3	2,136	1	288	7	16,255
ACC	-	-	1	460	1	494	-	-
ACCD	-	-	1	1,299	-	-	-	-
ACD	-	-	4	5,200	3	2,864	1	300
ACT	2	1,178	-	-	1	1,313	2	3,483
AFC	4	2,675	-	-	-	-	-	-
BG	-	-	-	-	3	10,813	2	1,291
CSD	2	1,304	5	5,866	4	1,139	-	-
EXEC	4	1,636	5	19,221	5	5,009	1	1,697
HAFD	2	4,970	-	-	-	-	-	-
HIID	1	963	1	248	-	-	-	-
HSD	9	9,604	3	761	2	3,765	-	-
HSID	-	-	-	-	4	4,779	5	7,070
ICD	1	1,063	2	840	2	272	2	1,894
ITG	-	-	2	651	-	-	-	-
MIN	1	567	1	-	1	652	-	-
MPSD	-	-	-	-	6	9,919	2	2,512
NHMRC	2	974	1	441	1	1,216	-	-
NSW	3	3,492	3	3,393	4	6,047	7	5,856
NT	1	969	-	-	2	961	1	1,120
OATSIH	6	4,244	4	3,169	2	3,627	2	3,489
PHD	2	4,172	2	623	4	2,100	2	3,459
PSD	1	1,525	-	-	1	726	-	-
PSR	1	565	4	8,479	2	4,236	1	743
QLD	3	9,832	1	828	4	5,858	1	821
SA	6	6,706	8	6,992	7	9,709	4	4,847
TAS	1	23,844	1	2,384	-	-	-	-
TGA	9	3,806	1	-	10	19,868	14	19,448
VIC	8	33,923	3	7,813	6	19,280	5	6,060
WA	2	5,421	-	-	2	1,232	5	14,344
Unidentified Locations	22	14,647	4	5,028	-	-	5	4,884
Total	94	\$139,710	60	\$75,832	78	\$116,167	69	\$99,573

Glossary of Administrative Unit Abbreviations

AACD	Ageing and Aged Care Division
ACC	Aged and Community Care
ACCD	Aged and Community Care Division
ACD	Acute Care Division
ACT	Australian Capital Territory Office
AFC	Audit and Fraud Control
BG	Business Group
CSD	Corporate Services Division
EXEC	Executive
HAFD	Health Access and Financing Division
HIID	Health Industry and Investment Division
HSD	Health Services Development
HSID	Health Services Improvement Division
ICD	Information and Communications Division
ITG	Information Technology Group
MIN	Ministers Office
MPSD	Medical and Pharmaceutical Services Division
NHMRC	National Health Medical Research Council
NSW	New South Wales State Office
NT	Northern Territory State Office
OATSIH	Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
PHD	Population Health Division
PSD	Portfolio Strategies Division
PSR	Professional Services Review
QLD	Queensland State Office
SA	South Australia State Office
TAS	Tasmania State Office
TGA	Therapeutic Goods Administration
VIC	Victorian State Office
WA	Western Australia State Office

- (c) Central records to identify whether anyone was charged over the accident, are not kept. To undertake any further investigation would take an undue diversion of resources with no guarantee of any further information being found. On this basis we cannot provide a response to this question.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-044

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: MINISTERIAL STAFF

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

- (a) How many Ministerial staff does the department provide?
- (b) To what Minister or Parliamentary Secretary are they assigned?
- (c) What is the total cost of these staff?
- (d) Can the Department provide data on how many staff are in each salary band?

Answer:

- (a) Four Departmental Liaison Officers (DLOs) are provided by the Department as departmental staff in the Ministers' offices.

In addition the department's graduate program offers a three month graduate placement in each of the three offices.

- (b) Two DLOs are assigned to the Minister for Health and Ageing.
One DLO is assigned to the Minister for Ageing.
One DLO is assigned to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing.

There is currently a graduate in the office of the Minister for Health and Ageing and a graduate in the office of the Minister for Ageing.

- (c) The total employee related cost of the Departmental DLO staff for 2003-04 was \$475,648. This includes costs associated with backfilling for periods when DLOs have been on leave. The total employee related cost associated with graduate placements in the ministerial offices for 2003-04 was \$136,817.

- (d) The Band level that DLOs are employed within may vary depending on the relative experience of the incumbents of the position and the structure within the office. DLOs are selected based on experience and suitability for the position and are generally employed within the APS 6 to EL2 band level. The current arrangement is:
- one DLO is within the Executive Level 1 band;
 - three DLOs are within the Executive Level 2 band.

Graduates are paid at the APS 3 level.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-038

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: SE QUESTIONS ON NOTICE - PROVISION TO THE COMMITTEE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

It has taken over five months to receive answers to some of the Budget Estimates questions put on notice to the Health Department. Is this best practice? What are the reasons for these extensive delays? What will the Health Department do to improve its performance?

Answer:

The Department recognises the importance of, and is committed to, providing timely answers to the Committee's questions. Of the questions taken on notice from the Budget Estimates Hearing of 2-3 June 2004, 16% of answers were provided on time and a further 50% were provided within one month of the due date. An additional 16% were submitted within 2 months of the due date. There are currently two answers outstanding.

While every effort is made to provide answers within the allotted time, there are a number of factors which can lead to delays in responding. The large number of questions asked at the hearing is a significant factor in the timely preparation of answers (352 questions were taken on notice at the hearing of 2-3 June 2004), as is the complexity and level of detail requested in many questions - some questions have several parts, with each part requiring a detailed response.

The Department endeavours to answer all questions from the Committee in a timely manner and will make every effort to improve the timeliness of answers.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2004-2005, 2 & 3 June 2004

Question: E04-001

OUTCOME: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: ADVERTISING/PUBLIC INFORMATION PROJECTS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Murray asked:

Please provide a list of all advertising or public information projects currently being undertaken or expected to be undertaken by the department or agency in the course of 2004 where the cost of the project is estimated or contracted to be \$100 000 or more, indicating:

- (a) the purpose and nature of the project;
- (b) the intended recipients of the information to be communicated by the project;
- (c) who authorised or is to authorise the project;
- (d) the manner in which the project is to be carried out;
- (e) who is to carry out the project;
- (f) whether the project is to be carried out under a contract;
- (g) whether such contract was let by tender;
- (h) the estimated or contracted cost of the project.

Answer:

This question was asked of a number of agencies, and, in accordance with established practice in such cases, the draft answers were forwarded to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet for the preparation of a whole of government response. We are awaiting a response from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-003

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: CRITICAL SHORTAGES OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Allison asked:

What plans does the Department have for making sure that future critical shortages of essential medicines are avoided and that medicines are always available to those Australians who may need them?

Answer:

Entry of medicines to the Australian market is regulated by the Department of Health and Ageing through the Therapeutic Goods Administration. Suppliers of medicines make commercial decisions about stock volumes manufactured or stockpiled in Australia and supply chain arrangements. It is not part of the TGA regulatory process to intervene in these commercial arrangements.

When medicines are listed for government subsidy on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), an assurance is sought from the sponsor that the company will be able to supply the product. There is an expectation by the Department that sponsors will do their best to ensure that supply is continuous. It is usually in their commercial interest to do so.

Accordingly, it is the responsibility of the manufacturers to ensure that adequate supplies of their medicines are maintained.

In the event of a sponsor indicating that a product will be out of stock for some time, it is possible for the Department to remove the product from the *Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits*. This course of action could have serious consequences for both patients and for the future of the product and is a last resort. Our preferred approach is to work cooperatively with pharmaceutical manufacturers.

The Department is unable to guarantee supplies of essential medicines at all times, given the 'just in time' supply strategies adopted by many companies.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-004

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: CRITICAL SHORTAGES OF INJECTABLE THIAMINE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Allison asked:

What information is available on the number of patients who failed to receive treatment or received inadequate treatment due to shortages of injectable thiamine in Australian hospitals in 2004?

Answer:

There is no information available on the number of patients, if any, who failed to receive treatment or received inadequate treatment due to shortages of injectable thiamine in Australian hospitals in 2004.

As set out in the answer to E04-005, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) did facilitate the availability of an alternate product on the Special Access Scheme either for use under Category A or B provisions and then subsequently as a generally supplied good.

Staff on the TGA's prescription drug information line provided information to co-ordinating hospital pharmacists about these alternative supply options.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-005

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: CRITICAL SHORTAGES OF INJECTABLE THIAMINE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Allison asked:

Given that injectable thiamine is an essential component of the prevention of alcohol-related brain damage, when the main manufacturer of thiamine stopped thiamine production in 2003, why did the TGA not alert pharmacists or doctors to the potential shortage in writing, nor provide comprehensive help to prevent or alleviate the shortages?

Answer:

The TGA was first informed by the sponsor of the Australian registered injectable thiamine product, that there was a problem with manufacture as a result of difficulties experienced by a raw material supplier in Germany, in February 2004. This was not a result of any change to the TGA's regulatory requirements. Throughout February and March, the TGA repeatedly contacted the sponsor, encouraging it to lodge an application to change the source of raw material supply. To avoid critical shortages of the medicine the TGA then arranged continuing supplies through other companies. Initial supply was organised via the Special Access Scheme and subsequently, a Section 19A approval for general market access for a product approved for use in Canada was given to ensure continuity of supply.

Staff on the TGA's prescription drug information line provided information to co-ordinating hospital pharmacists about these alternative supply options.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-006

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: CRITICAL SHORTAGES OF INJECTABLE THIAMINE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Allison asked:

Given that the shortage of injectable thiamine may have resulted in an increase in the incidence of alcohol-related brain damage in the Australian community, what plans does the department have to investigate and respond to the potential health consequences of this shortage?

Answer:

The shortage of registered product was due to the inability of the Australian sponsor to identify a suitable source of the raw active material for the continued supply of injectable thiamine. As set out in answer to Question E04-005, the TGA facilitated access to an alternative source of product from overseas to provide continuity of supply.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-007

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: CRITICAL SHORTAGES OF INJECTABLE THIAMINE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Allison asked:

What plans does the department have for investigating the causes and responses to the recent shortage of injectable thiamine in Australia?

Answer:

The shortage of registered product was due to the inability of the Australian sponsor to indentify a suitable source of the raw active material for the continued supply of injectable thiamine. As set out in the answer to Question E04-005, the TGA facilitated access to an alternative source of product from overseas to provide continuity of supply.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-017

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: INSPECTIONS OF THE SILEX SYSTEMS PREMISES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

Please provide details of all inspections of the Silex Systems Ltd premises conducted by ARPANSA

Answer:

In the course of assessing an application for a source licence and prior to issuing a licence to SILEX, two site visits were undertaken to obtain additional information as part of the assessment of the application.

Since the source licence was issued to SILEX on 17 August 2001, there have been two comprehensive inspections of SILEX by ARPANSA inspectors. The inspections were conducted on 16 May 2002 and 23 December 2004. The inspection reports are classified.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-018

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: ARPANSA LICENCES ISSUED TO SILEX SYSTEMS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

Please provide details of all licences issued to Silex Systems Ltd by ARPANSA.

Answer:

Pursuant to the definition of a “controlled person” in the *ARPANS Act 1998* which includes a “person in a prescribed Commonwealth place” and following amendment in 2000 of the ARPANSA Regulations 1999 that prescribed the site occupied by SILEX (Regulation 6A of the ARPANS Regulations), a source licence was issued to SILEX in August 2001.

The SILEX licence was issued under Section 33 of the *ARPANS Act 1998*. It allows SILEX to deal with controlled material and controlled apparatus, as defined in the *ARPANS Act 1998* and further prescribed in the ARPANS Regulations 1999.

The controlled material that SILEX is authorised to deal with is a defined amount of unsealed sources (with radioactivity as defined within item 31 of Schedule 3C of the ARPANSA Regulations). The unsealed sources include various isotopes of Uranium, including in the form of UF₆. The activity limit is equivalent to a few kilograms of low enriched UF₆.

SILEX is also authorised under its source licence to deal with controlled apparatus being lasers with an accessible emission level that is greater than Class 3B lasers. It is authorised to deal with both the controlled material and the controlled apparatus for the purpose of research and development.

The effect of an ARPANSA licence is that SILEX is only authorised to deal with the controlled material and the controlled apparatus that is specifically identified in the licence instrument, and for the specified purpose. To ensure that SILEX remains within the authorised parameters of the licence it is required as a condition of licence to report its inventory of radioactive sources and lasers each quarter to the CEO of ARPANSA.

The licence is also subject to statutory licence conditions established by the *ARPANS Act 1998* and regulations, and set out in the ARPANSA Standard Conditions Handbook which was referenced in the SILEX source licence. One of the statutory licence conditions relates to the licence holder's obligation to comply with the Code of Practice for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material (2000) as well as other Radiation Protection Standards, including those relating to the use of ionising and non-ionising radiation. In addition the licence is subject to other conditions that are imposed by the CEO of ARPANSA under his power to make licence conditions.

The licence application material, inspection reports and the full licence are classified.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-019

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: SILEX SYSTEMS RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

Please provide a copy of the Silex Systems Ltd radioactive waste management plan referred to in the ARPANSA press release date 30 November 2004.

Answer:

SILEX is an occupier of premises at the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation at the Lucas Heights Science and Technology Centre (LHSTC) under a Deed of Licence which includes a Schedule of Safety Terms and Conditions for all occupiers. This includes a requirement that SILEX complies with ANSTO safety management procedures.

At the time of the SILEX source licence application, its radioactive waste management plan consisted of the relevant ANSTO directive - APOL 2.2 (1999) 'ANSTO Radioactive Waste Management Policy'. This has subsequently become the ANSTO Safety Directive 5.7 'Safe Management of Radioactive Waste'.

While SILEX complies with the principles and procedures of the ANSTO Safety Directive 5.7, it stores its own waste within the building. This waste is a small amount of mainly contaminated clothing and gloves etc. It is stored in two drums in a secure area.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-020

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: SILEX SYSTEMS – RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

An ARPANSA press release dated 30 November 2004 refers to "various types of uranium". Please provide details of all radioactive materials which Silex Systems Ltd are licensed to possess.

Answer:

The SILEX licence was issued under Section 33 of the *ARPANS Act 1998* that allows SILEX to deal with certain small quantities of the various isotopes of Uranium including U235 and U234/238, in quantities as defined within item 31 of Schedule 3C of the ARPANSA Regulations, for the purposes of research and development.

The activity limit is equivalent to a few kilograms of low enriched UF6.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-021

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: SILEX SYSTEMS – CONSULTATION WITH REGULATORY AGENCIES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

- (a) Has ARPANSA consulted with NSW regulatory agencies such as the NSW EPA in relation to the activities of Silex Systems?
- (b) Please provide details of all correspondence.

Answer:

- (a) and (b) No.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-022

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: SILEX SYSTEMS HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ANALYSIS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

- (a) Is ARPANSA aware of any analysis of the risks and consequences posed by the use of hazardous materials being used by Silex Systems Ltd?
- (b) Please provide details

Answer:

(a) and (b) ARPANSA undertook a review of these matters when it assessed the SILEX application for licence prior to the CEO's decision to issue a source licence. The major hazards at SILEX are the use of numerous class 4 lasers in a research environment and the possibility of the dissolution of UF₆ in air to form hydrofluoric acid, which is highly corrosive. The radiation hazard from the small amounts of low enriched uranium used at SILEX is minimal.

One of the matters that the CEO of APRANSA took into account when making his licensing decision was the ANSTO Safety Assessment Committee (SAC) approval for the SILEX operations (SAC1445/00) undertaken in February 2001. Part of the SAC approval process, was the undertaking of a Hazard Operability study (HAZOP), and the obtaining of a criticality certificate for the operations.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-023

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: SILEX SYSTEMS SAFETY & SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

- (c) Was ARPANSA consulted in relation to safety and security arrangements relating to the importation of radioactive materials for use by Silex Systems?
- (d) Please provide details

Answer:

(a) and (b) The licence issued to SILEX is subject to statutory licence conditions established by the *ARPANS Act 1998* and ARPANS Regulations. One of these licence conditions obliges SILEX to comply with the Code of Practice for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material (2000) (the transport code). The transport code is based on the internationally endorsed safety standard that ensures the safe transport of all types of radioactive material by all modes (i.e. air, maritime, road and rail).

ARPANSA is satisfied that the transport of UF6 to SILEX complied with the safety requirements of the transport code. The physical security of the nuclear material is a matter for the Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office (ASNO).

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2004/2005, November 2004

Question: E04-039

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: ABORTION

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

- (a) What work has the Department undertaken to determine the best ways to reduce the abortion rate? Please provide copies of any reports or papers resulting from that work. If the Department has not examined this issue, please explain why not?
- (b) What work has the Department done to explore or to provide alternatives to women considering induced abortion? Please provide details and copies of relevant documents.
- (c) What work has the Department done to address the reasons women seek an induced abortion? What are the reasons and how does the Department address the reasons or the problems women encounter? Please provide copies of any relevant material.
- (d) What outcomes is the Department looking to achieve with regard to induced abortion? Does the Department regard, all things being equal, avoiding a surgical abortion as preferable to another outcome?

Answer:

- (a) The Department has not been asked to prepare any reports on this issue.
- (b) In 2003-04, the Australian Government provided \$16.4 million to a range of sexual and reproductive health services. These services provide pregnancy counselling support and advice amongst other family planning services.
- (c) The Department has not been asked to prepare any reports on this issue.
- (d) The Australian Government funds services which provide women and their partners with counselling, support and advice concerning pregnancy. The Department implements the funding of these services. Departments of State do not have independent policy views or objectives.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2004-2005, Nov 2004

Question: E04-042

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: FUNDING - FAMILY PLANNING

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

Please provide a table and a line graph which tracks in real terms for each of the last 20 years:

- Commonwealth Government funding for family planning organisations;
- Commonwealth Government funding for pregnancy counselling agencies (i.e. Australian Federation of Pregnancy Support Services);
- numbers of Medicare-funded induced abortions (combined items 35643 and 16525); and
- dollars spent on Medicare-funded abortions (combined items 35643 and 16525).

Answer:

The Department is unable to provide a full response to this question as the considerable work involved would require a significant diversion of resources from other Departmental operations.

In response the Department has provided the following tables and line graphs:

Attachment A Australian Government funding for family planning organisations from 1997/98 to 2003/04. The data do not include funding for South Australia and ACT as both these jurisdictions during some or all of this period were funded under the Public Health Funding Outcome Agreements (PHOFAs) and funding for family planning organisations cannot be separately identified. These data include funding for Sexual Health and Family Planning Australia Inc, the peak body for family planning organisations.

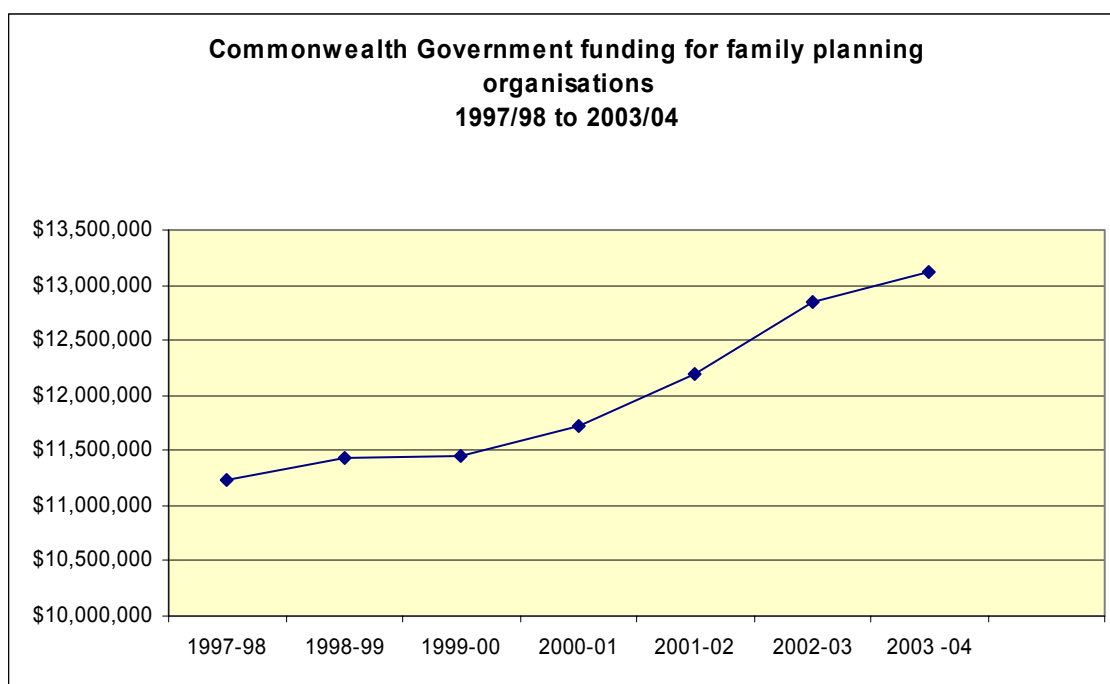
Attachment B Commonwealth Government funding for pregnancy counselling agencies covering both the Australian Federation of Pregnancy Support Services and the Australian Episcopal Conference of the Roman Catholic Church from 1997/98 to 2003/04.

Attachment C Number of services provided under combined Medicare Item numbers
 35643 and 16525 from 1984/85 to 2003/04.

Attachment D Benefits paid under combined Medicare Item numbers 35643 and
 16525 from 1984/85 to 2003/04.

**Commonwealth Government funding for family planning organisations
1997/98 to 2003/04**

Year	Funding (\$)
1997/98	11,241,220
1998/99	11,436,508
1999/00	11,454,319
2000/01	11,727,806
2001/02	12,186,204
2002/03	12,841,570
2003/04	13,127,310



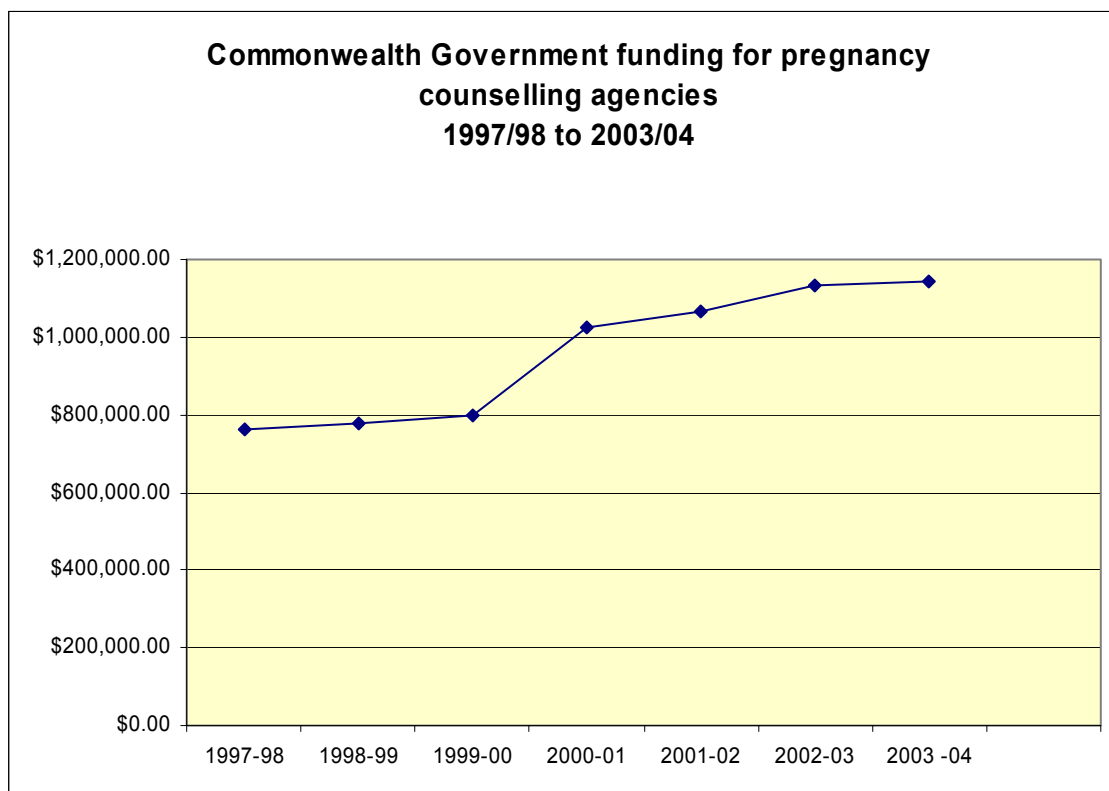
Notes

The data do not include funding for South Australia and ACT as funding for family planning organisations for both these jurisdictions during some or all of this period was provided under the Public Health Funding Outcome Agreements (PHOFAs) and cannot be separately identified.

The June 2002 Payment of \$9,398 for Sexual Health and Family Planning Australia Inc was added to the 2002/03 payment.

**Commonwealth Government funding for pregnancy counselling agencies
1997/98 to 2003/04**

Year	Funding (\$)
1997/98	763,180
1998/99	779,787
1999/00	799,377
2000/01	1,026,737
2001/02	1,066,530
2002/03	1,132,744
2003/04	1,141,574

**Notes**

The data include funding for pregnancy counselling agencies covering both the Australian Federation of Pregnancy Support Services (AFPSS) and the Australian Episcopal Conference of the Roman Catholic Church.

AFPSS was not funded until 2000. An underpayment to AFPSS of \$16,834 in the 2000/01 financial year was made up in 2002/03.

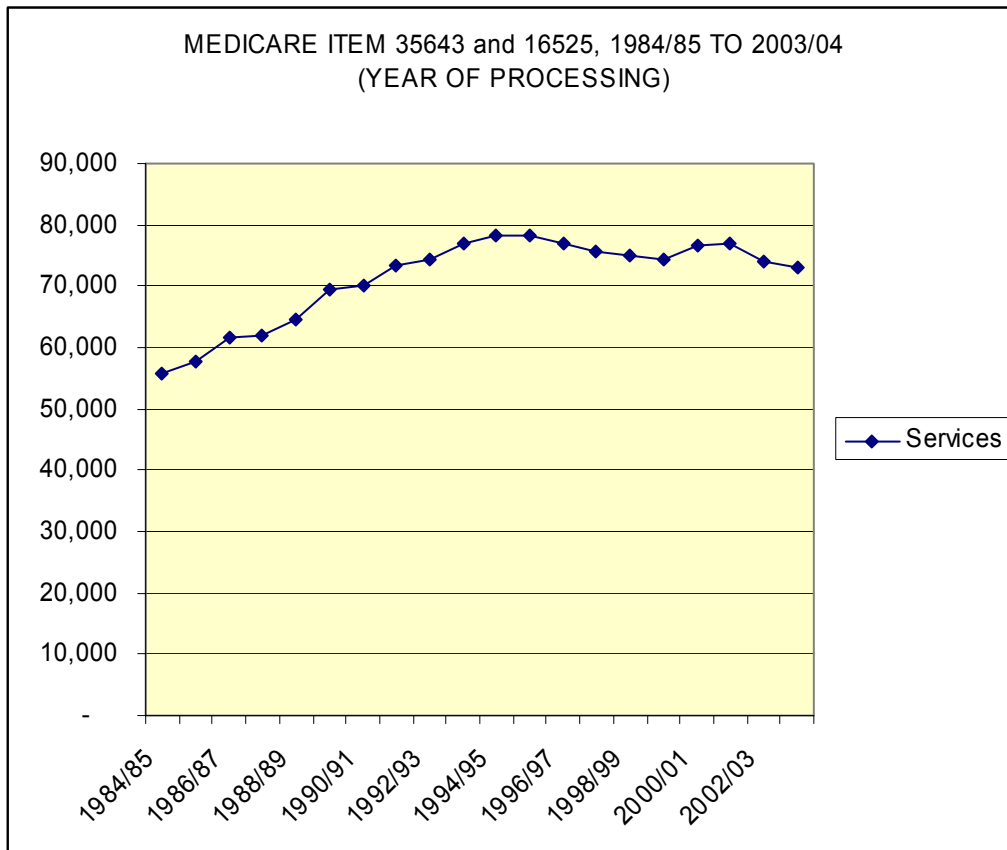
**Number of services provided under combined Medicare Item numbers 35643 and 16525
1984/85 to 2003/04**

MEDICARE Combined Items 35643 & 16525	
TOTAL SERVICES	
BY YEAR OF PROCESSING	
1984/85 TO 2003/04	
Year	Services
1984/85	55,725
1985/86	57,655
1986/87	61,720
1987/88	61,805
1988/89	64,655
1989/90	69,480
1990/91	70,197
1991/92	73,428
1992/93	74,232
1993/94	76,802
1994/95	78,249
1995/96	78,377
1996/97	76,846
1997/98	75,553
1998/99	75,130
1999/00	74,336
2000/01	76,548
2001/02	76,845
2002/03	73,904
2003/04	73,191

Notes

Item 35643 would be used for the treatment of missed abortion, where the foetus has died but has not been expelled from the uterus and trophoblastic disease such as hydatitiform mole. The conditions covered under item 16525 are gross foetal abnormality and life threatening maternal disease. The decision to use item 16525 would be a clinical judgment made by the medical practitioner dependent on the circumstances of the case.

**Number of services provided under combined Medicare Item numbers 35643 and 16525
1984/85 to 2003/04**



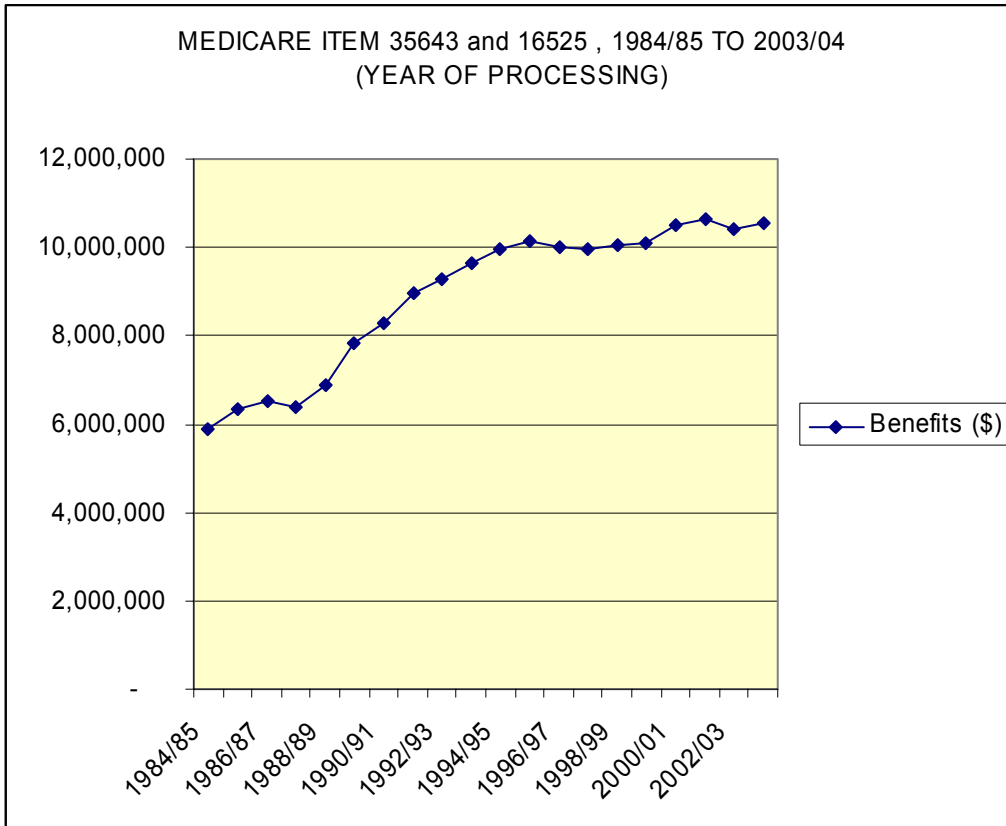
**Benefits paid under combined Medicare Item numbers 35643 and 16525
1984/85 to 2003/04**

MEDICARE Combined Items 35643 & 16525	
TOTAL BENEFITS (\$)	
BY YEAR OF PROCESSING	
1984/85 TO 2003/04	
Year	Benefits
1984/85	5,907,975
1985/86	6,352,900
1986/87	6,521,470
1987/88	6,388,097
1988/89	6,875,541
1989/90	7,813,922
1990/91	8,292,437
1991/92	8,946,584
1992/93	9,280,616
1993/94	9,631,071
1994/95	9,974,564
1995/96	10,149,659
1996/97	10,010,791
1997/98	9,971,487
1998/99	10,071,049
1999/00	10,089,668
2000/01	10,511,324
2001/02	10,637,005
2002/03	10,403,520
2003/04	10,544,762

Notes

Item 35643 would be used for the treatment of missed abortion, where the foetus has died but has not been expelled from the uterus and trophoblastic disease such as hydatitiform mole. The conditions covered under item 16525 are gross foetal abnormality and life threatening maternal disease. The decision to use item 16525 would be a clinical judgment made by the medical practitioner dependent on the circumstances of the case.

**Benefits paid under combined Medicare Item numbers 35643 and 16525
1984/85 to 2003/04**



Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-035

OUTCOME 1: Population Health and Safety

Topic: CONSUMER MEDICINES INFORMATION AND PRODUCT INFORMATION –
HUMAN EMBRYOS AND HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

- a) Please advise as to progress with implementing changes to the provision of information in Consumer Medicine Information and Product Information on the use in pharmaceuticals of human embryos, human embryonic stem cells or any other material sourced from a human embryo or human embryonic stem cells.
- b) Have any pharmaceuticals fallen under the new provisions? If so, please provide a copy of the CMI and the PI for each pharmaceutical.

Answer:

- a) The change to the provision of information in Consumer Medicine Information and Product Information regarding such use has been in place since 1 July 2004.

The Therapeutic Goods Regulations 1990 states:

Regulation 9B (1)

A sponsor of therapeutic goods (other than medical devices) commits an offence if:

- (a) the sponsor supplies the goods on or after 1 July 2004; and
- (b) the sponsor knows the goods were manufactured using a human embryo or human embryonic stem cell, or other material sourced from a human embryo or human embryonic stem cell; and
- (c) the goods are of a kind specified in Part 1 of Schedule 10; and
- (d) on or after 1 July 2004, the goods are included in the part of the Register for goods known as registered goods; and
- (e) the goods are supplied without written information stating that the goods were manufactured using a human embryo or human embryonic stem cell, or other material sourced from a human embryonic stem cell.

Regulation 9B (3)

The information in relation to the therapeutic goods must be included in:

- (a) the patient information document required under regulation 9A; and
- (b) the product information in relation to the goods.

Regulation 9B (4)

In this regulation:

human embryo means a live embryo that has a human genome or an altered human genome and that has been developing for less than 8 weeks since the appearance of 2 pro-nucei or the initiation of its development by other means.

human embryonic stem cell means undifferentiated cells derived from a human embryo that have the potential to become a wide variety of specialised cell types.

product information, in relation to therapeutic goods, has the meaning given by subsection 9D (5) of the [*Therapeutic Goods Act 1989*].

Regulation 9B (5) states

For the purposes of the definition of human embryo in subregulation (4), in working out the length of the period of development of a human embryo, any period when the development of the embryo is suspended is to be disregarded.

Information for sponsors is also contained in Appendix 24 of the Australian Regulatory Guidelines for Prescription Medicines, regarding therapeutic goods and the use of human embryos, human embryonic stem cells and materials derived therefrom.

- b) No.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
 ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
 HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-001

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: UPTAKE OF MBS ITEM 710

Written Question on Notice

Senator Allison asked:

(a) What has been the uptake of MBS Item 710 since its introduction in May 2004? Can this information be provided by State or Territory?

(b) How does this compare to the initial uptake rates for the Enhanced Primary Care health assessments for elderly Australians for a comparable period?

Answer:

(a) Medicare Benefits Schedule Item 710 provides a Medicare rebate for two-yearly health checks for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 to 54 years. Uptake of Item 710 for the first six months of its introduction (May 2004 to October 2004) is shown in the following table.

		State								Total
		NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	ACT	NT	
Item	710	Services	Services	Services	Services	Services	Services	Services	Services	Services
	Total	576	291	1,142	231	664	4	2	338	3,248

(b) The Enhanced Primary Care Medicare items introduced in November 1999 include items for health assessments for older Australians, that is, for people aged 75 years and over (items 700 and 702), and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 55 years and over (items 704 and 706). Uptake of these items over the first 6 months of implementation (November 1999 to April 2000) is shown in the following table.

		State								Total
		NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	ACT	NT	
		Services	Services	Services	Services	Services	Services	Services	Services	Services
Item	700									
	Sub-total	8,209	7,646	5,907	2,101	1,871	534	150	8	26,426
	702									
	Sub-total	3,613	3,558	1,600	1,796	892	281	43	-	11,783
	704									
	Sub-total	79	59	45	9	26	1	1	8	228
	706									
	Sub-total	28	22	16	38	6	-	-	2	112
Total		11,929	11,285	7,568	3,944	2,795	816	194	18	38,549

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-002

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR ADULT HEALTH CHECK

Written Question on Notice

Senator Allison asked:

- (a) How much funding was allocated to the implementation strategy to encourage the uptake of the Enhanced Primary Care health assessments for elderly Australians by GPs?
- (b) How much funding has been allocated to the implementation strategy to encourage the adult health check of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 -54 years by GPs?
- (c) What initiatives and activities have been implemented or are planned to be implemented as part of the implementation strategy to encourage the adult health check of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 -54 years by GPs?

Answer:

- (a) Funding of \$8.1 million was allocated in the 1999-2000 Budget to the General Practice Education, Support and Community Linkages (GPESCL) Program to provide education and training for general practitioners to engage in the new arrangements in the Enhanced Primary Care (EPC) package.
- (b) \$176,000 has been allocated for the initial phase of the implementation strategy to encourage uptake of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Adult Health Check (item 710). The need for additional activities to further support uptake of the item will be reviewed during 2005.
- (c) As part of the implementation strategy all medical practitioners were alerted to the availability of the new adult health check item via an insert to the May 2004 Supplement to the Medicare Benefits Schedule. Supporting information for the health check item was made available through the Department's website and the item was officially launched by the Minister for Health and Ageing on 5 May 2004.

Initiatives and activities planned as part of the implementation strategy include: a mail-out of a fact sheet on the new service to all GPs (December 2004); a health professionals' awareness campaign (from February 2005), comprising distribution of an information kit containing explanatory, support and promotional materials, and the placement of advertisements in professional journals; and a consumer awareness campaign commencing from March 2005 (targeted radio, TV and press advertisements).

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-024

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: BULK BILLING STATISTICS - UNREFERRED (GP)

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

- (a) What is the electorate-by-electorate breakdown of the percentage of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed by Federal Electoral Division for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2004, 2003 and 2002 period of processing?
- (b) What is the electorate-by-electorate breakdown of the number of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed by Federal Electoral Division for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2004, 2003 and 2002 period of processing?
- (c) What is the electorate-by-electorate breakdown for the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for total unREFERRED (GP) attendances by Federal Electoral Division for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2004, 2003 and 2002 period of processing?
- (d) What is the electorate-by-electorate breakdown for the number of services total unREFERRED (GP) attendances by Federal Electoral Division for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2004, 2003 and 2002 period of processing?

Answer:

Note: Statistics for calendar year 2004 are expected to be available after 11 February 2005.

- (a) The electorate-by-electorate breakdown of the percentage of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed by Federal Electoral Division for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2003 and 2002 period of processing, is as follows:

**MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES
PERCENTAGE OF SERVICES BULK BILLED
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)**

<i>Electorate</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
Adelaide	70.2%	59.6%
Aston	79.7%	71.5%
Ballarat	60.2%	44.9%
Banks	86.4%	84.5%
Barker	38.0%	38.0%
Barton	92.1%	91.2%
Bass	49.9%	43.5%
Batman	87.4%	83.6%
Bendigo	49.1%	48.4%
Bennelong	81.9%	79.8%
Berowra	73.1%	70.0%
Blair	75.7%	70.9%
Blaxland	96.0%	95.6%
Bonner	76.7%	64.7%
Boothby	57.7%	52.2%
Bowman	74.5%	63.2%
Braddon	61.8%	48.9%
Bradfield	62.7%	59.7%
Brand	65.0%	59.8%
Brisbane	67.7%	55.2%
Bruce	79.7%	76.6%
Calare	61.2%	59.4%
Calwell	87.1%	82.4%
Canberra	45.3%	39.9%
Canning	60.6%	55.0%
Capricornia	47.8%	48.0%
Casey	68.6%	59.6%
Charlton	61.1%	55.8%
Chifley	98.5%	98.3%
Chisholm	77.2%	72.3%
Cook	77.8%	74.4%
Corangamite	44.3%	41.8%
Corio	60.2%	57.8%
Cowan	79.1%	73.3%
Cowper	51.8%	52.0%
Cunningham	82.8%	80.9%
Curtin	59.9%	55.6%
Dawson	66.3%	63.7%
Deakin	73.9%	65.3%
Denison	52.0%	47.4%

**MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES
PERCENTAGE OF SERVICES BULK BILLED
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)**

<u>Electorate</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Dickson	58.8%	48.3%
Dobell	63.4%	57.6%
Dunkley	55.2%	48.5%
Eden-Monaro	39.1%	37.9%
Fadden	74.3%	66.0%
Fairfax	70.4%	60.1%
Farrer	41.6%	40.8%
Fisher	75.1%	59.9%
Flinders	51.6%	44.2%
Forde	85.2%	77.6%
Forrest	52.8%	53.8%
Fowler	98.2%	97.5%
Franklin	54.9%	51.5%
Fraser	43.0%	35.2%
Fremantle	71.5%	64.6%
Gellibrand	87.3%	82.9%
Gilmore	62.0%	60.4%
Gippsland	66.8%	61.2%
Goldstein	60.7%	55.3%
Gorton	88.6%	82.8%
Grayndler	92.5%	90.6%
Greenway	95.4%	95.0%
Grey	65.0%	66.6%
Griffith	75.8%	64.1%
Groom	61.3%	50.8%
Gwydir	62.8%	64.4%
Hasluck	74.2%	69.2%
Herbert	57.2%	61.3%
Higgins	64.8%	60.3%
Hindmarsh	69.5%	62.6%
Hinkler	46.4%	47.7%
Holt	74.7%	70.1%
Hotham	81.1%	76.4%
Hughes	77.8%	74.9%
Hume	60.4%	59.6%
Hunter	52.5%	49.4%
Indi	35.2%	30.4%
Isaacs	76.9%	70.4%
Jagajaga	72.2%	67.5%

Kalgoorlie	61.7%	61.6%
Kennedy	62.0%	59.0%
MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES PERCENTAGE OF SERVICES BULK BILLED BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003 (YEAR OF PROCESSING)		
<i><u>Electorate</u></i>	<i><u>2002</u></i>	<i><u>2003</u></i>
Kingsford Smith	90.9%	88.0%
Kingston	67.0%	56.0%
Kooyong	63.3%	58.3%
La Trobe	67.1%	61.7%
Lalor	80.0%	67.9%
Leichhardt	80.0%	75.9%
Lilley	71.7%	60.5%
Lindsay	90.6%	87.2%
Lingiari	72.2%	71.5%
Longman	82.4%	72.9%
Lowe	92.4%	91.2%
Lyne	64.2%	57.7%
Lyons	68.0%	65.7%
Macarthur	90.3%	89.6%
Mackellar	75.5%	71.5%
Macquarie	75.8%	71.4%
Makin	65.4%	61.5%
Mallee	53.6%	53.2%
Maranoa	52.6%	53.7%
Maribyrnong	84.7%	79.3%
Mayo	46.8%	43.3%
McEwen	59.8%	54.6%
McMillan	54.0%	53.6%
McPherson	75.0%	69.0%
Melbourne	83.4%	79.6%
Melbourne Ports	73.4%	70.3%
Menzies	74.8%	69.1%
Mitchell	81.7%	80.8%
Moncrieff	74.0%	68.4%
Moore	71.2%	64.1%
Moreton	80.5%	67.5%
Murray	31.8%	29.7%
New England	49.2%	48.4%
Newcastle	70.5%	61.8%
North Sydney	66.3%	60.0%
O'Connor	51.7%	50.8%
Oxley	82.2%	73.7%
Page	47.2%	46.7%

Parkes	67.2%	66.4%
Parramatta	92.4%	90.6%
Paterson	58.3%	53.3%

**MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES
PERCENTAGE OF SERVICES BULK BILLED
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)**

<i>Electorate</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
Pearce	73.1%	70.5%
Perth	79.6%	72.2%
Petrie	70.6%	57.0%
Port Adelaide	90.2%	83.7%
Prospect	97.6%	96.9%
Rankin	89.9%	84.0%
Reid	98.0%	97.1%
Richmond	69.2%	62.9%
Riverina	46.0%	46.3%
Robertson	64.4%	61.8%
Ryan	55.2%	47.9%
Scullin	88.3%	85.7%
Shortland	56.7%	51.4%
Solomon	60.8%	58.1%
Stirling	79.2%	73.1%
Sturt	62.3%	53.8%
Swan	78.3%	72.4%
Sydney	85.3%	83.1%
Tangney	67.9%	61.4%
Throsby	92.8%	94.2%
Wakefield	76.7%	76.2%
Wannon	49.9%	41.1%
Warringah	73.4%	69.5%
Watson	96.2%	95.4%
Wentworth	74.8%	71.4%
Werriwa	95.8%	95.3%
Wide Bay	56.8%	55.1%
Wills	86.5%	80.8%
Total	72.3%	67.8%

- (b) The electorate-by-electorate breakdown of the number of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed by Federal Electoral Division for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2003 and 2002 period of processing, is as follows:

**MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES
NUMBER OF SERVICES BULK BILLED
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)**

<u>Electorate</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Adelaide	471,763	380,055
Aston	563,952	479,473
Ballarat	337,464	242,250
Banks	694,700	655,322
Barker	235,705	230,754
Barton	781,327	748,570
Bass	205,922	172,431
Batman	721,076	655,158
Bendigo	260,947	261,318
Bennelong	582,247	549,039
Berowra	494,312	458,820
Blair	523,751	484,196
Blaxland	1,047,224	1,008,525
Bonner	520,552	414,359
Boothby	389,962	341,087
Bowman	493,058	404,504
Braddon	280,827	207,866
Bradfield	401,083	372,460
Brand	371,882	340,280
Brisbane	374,653	294,652
Bruce	657,873	596,347
Calare	319,616	310,794
Calwell	730,382	668,755
Canberra	279,126	232,070
Canning	329,785	288,493
Capricornia	277,557	275,336
Casey	425,659	345,641
Charlton	355,067	311,836
Chifley	1,058,146	1,015,083
Chisholm	533,465	470,702
Cook	505,140	464,740
Corangamite	234,412	216,092
Corio	348,382	328,128
Cowan	512,780	460,896
Cowper	268,050	268,390
Cunningham	566,242	535,089
Curtin	320,711	289,858
Dawson	411,492	389,738
Deakin	494,133	412,257

Denison	256,041	219,432
Dickson	330,331	265,984
MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES		
NUMBER OF SERVICES BULK BILLED		
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003		
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)		
<i><u>Electorate</u></i>	<i><u>2002</u></i>	<i><u>2003</u></i>
Dobell	398,254	353,623
Dunkley	368,134	305,944
Eden-Monaro	189,649	182,657
Fadden	481,098	420,551
Fairfax	463,058	388,394
Farrer	197,852	195,604
Fisher	519,215	406,605
Flinders	304,393	250,030
Forde	604,448	539,901
Forrest	252,118	261,650
Fowler	1,081,832	1,040,375
Franklin	260,130	231,721
Fraser	266,556	208,965
Fremantle	426,042	369,202
Gellibrand	668,326	590,936
Gilmore	343,166	331,214
Gippsland	397,037	366,350
Goldstein	420,325	364,550
Gorton	723,698	647,606
Grayndler	758,313	709,760
Greenway	856,762	841,935
Grey	442,569	459,381
Griffith	491,503	389,376
Groom	374,092	293,442
Gwydir	332,460	348,065
Hasluck	439,715	390,552
Herbert	289,047	330,398
Higgins	411,421	363,327
Hindmarsh	535,854	462,630
Hinkler	279,866	295,324
Holt	581,171	537,724
Hotham	607,191	537,264
Hughes	552,866	515,903
Hume	345,128	333,755
Hunter	279,063	260,452
Indi	171,011	146,878
Isaacs	603,522	523,689
Jagajaga	490,063	433,624

Kalgoorlie	239,209	246,364
Kennedy	352,809	328,883
Kingsford Smith	783,931	726,764
Kingston	483,339	390,911
MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES		
NUMBER OF SERVICES BULK BILLED		
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003		
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)		
<i><u>Electorate</u></i>	<i><u>2002</u></i>	<i><u>2003</u></i>
Kooyong	365,246	316,044
La Trobe	393,082	351,169
Lalor	550,474	444,550
Leichhardt	525,144	481,237
Lilley	490,821	386,140
Lindsay	690,134	630,098
Lingiari	106,609	111,204
Longman	569,493	493,629
Lowe	719,494	693,189
Lyne	407,168	360,487
Lyons	288,189	266,287
Macarthur	764,404	756,732
Mackellar	497,664	452,961
Macquarie	483,855	436,483
Makin	443,354	405,202
Mallee	289,843	281,803
Maranoa	300,248	303,825
Maribyrnong	695,261	604,258
Mayo	279,113	250,608
McEwen	371,875	332,567
McMillan	273,803	269,951
McPherson	482,397	435,653
Melbourne	605,127	549,062
Melbourne Ports	526,859	482,545
Menzies	505,211	444,553
Mitchell	578,101	576,325
Moncrieff	536,071	480,671
Moore	399,272	344,770
Moreton	526,563	419,165
Murray	152,745	142,760
New England	237,004	227,801
Newcastle	444,100	369,652
North Sydney	406,829	356,762
O'Connor	232,822	225,617
Oxley	644,158	555,679
Page	239,960	233,088

Parkes	330,934	340,700
Parramatta	833,029	801,657
Paterson	332,748	300,252
Pearce	410,032	394,354
Perth	527,785	455,127
Petrie	479,974	367,620
MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES		
NUMBER OF SERVICES BULK BILLED		
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003		
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)		
<i>Electorate</i>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Port Adelaide	827,658	731,198
Prospect	987,951	951,461
Rankin	752,498	668,865
Reid	1,032,433	984,915
Richmond	436,438	385,527
Riverina	207,074	213,278
Robertson	432,021	411,849
Ryan	291,953	244,487
Scullin	706,907	655,003
Shortland	341,866	296,704
Solomon	142,377	126,708
Stirling	554,376	487,689
Sturt	467,057	386,075
Swan	470,155	419,807
Sydney	690,481	654,576
Tangney	403,055	350,703
Throsby	726,386	746,117
Wakefield	593,056	594,738
Wannon	263,495	214,401
Warringah	489,597	442,526
Watson	935,471	880,722
Wentworth	502,794	461,990
Werriwa	941,164	926,807
Wide Bay	352,227	353,541
Wills	776,232	685,211
Total	71,294,742	64,796,191

- (c) The electorate-by-electorate breakdown for the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for total unREFERRED (GP) attendances by Federal Electoral Division for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2003 and 2002 period of processing, is as follows:

**MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES
AVERAGE PATIENT CONTRIBUTION PER SERVICE
PATIENT BILLED NON-HOSPITAL SERVICES
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)**

<i>Electorate</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
Adelaide	\$11.35	\$11.95
Aston	\$14.39	\$15.16
Ballarat	\$10.99	\$11.28
Banks	\$10.90	\$11.98
Barker	\$10.09	\$11.14
Barton	\$13.09	\$14.86
Bass	\$11.43	\$12.16
Batman	\$12.45	\$13.68
Bendigo	\$10.02	\$11.71
Bennelong	\$13.95	\$16.13
Berowra	\$13.29	\$15.78
Blair	\$9.20	\$10.39
Blaxland	\$9.51	\$11.22
Bonner	\$13.54	\$13.68
Boothby	\$10.71	\$11.54
Bowman	\$13.22	\$13.61
Braddon	\$8.22	\$8.91
Bradfield	\$16.53	\$19.99
Brand	\$9.75	\$10.67
Brisbane	\$13.65	\$14.15
Bruce	\$13.76	\$14.32
Calare	\$11.99	\$12.74
Calwell	\$12.27	\$12.22
Canberra	\$15.70	\$18.10
Canning	\$10.90	\$11.78
Capricornia	\$10.88	\$12.32
Casey	\$13.48	\$14.40
Charlton	\$11.07	\$12.67
Chifley	\$14.71	\$15.52
Chisholm	\$14.59	\$15.71
Cook	\$12.29	\$13.85
Corangamite	\$11.38	\$12.65
Corio	\$10.65	\$11.85
Cowan	\$11.01	\$12.31
Cowper	\$10.20	\$12.04
Cunningham	\$9.87	\$11.02
Curtin	\$15.73	\$16.95
Dawson	\$14.77	\$16.57
Deakin	\$14.21	\$14.61
Denison	\$8.76	\$10.47
Dickson	\$12.10	\$13.28
Dobell	\$10.02	\$11.23
Dunkley	\$12.19	\$13.30
Eden-Monaro	\$11.88	\$13.52

**MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES
AVERAGE PATIENT CONTRIBUTION PER SERVICE
PATIENT BILLED NON-HOSPITAL SERVICES
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)**

<u>Electorate</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Fadden	\$13.48	\$14.64
Fairfax	\$9.43	\$10.71
Farrer	\$11.01	\$12.43
Fisher	\$10.00	\$11.09
Flinders	\$10.65	\$11.93
Forde	\$11.49	\$11.90
Forrest	\$12.13	\$13.46
Fowler	\$11.34	\$12.80
Franklin	\$8.95	\$10.69
Fraser	\$15.59	\$17.41
Fremantle	\$14.61	\$15.77
Gellibrand	\$12.93	\$13.83
Gilmore	\$11.02	\$12.60
Gippsland	\$11.17	\$11.58
Goldstein	\$15.69	\$17.38
Gorton	\$12.95	\$12.70
Grayndler	\$17.53	\$19.21
Greenway	\$16.06	\$17.87
Grey	\$8.68	\$9.79
Griffith	\$14.86	\$15.29
Groom	\$11.76	\$12.78
Gwydir	\$11.25	\$12.81
Hasluck	\$11.30	\$12.92
Herbert	\$15.38	\$15.92
Higgins	\$17.02	\$18.93
Hindmarsh	\$10.60	\$10.86
Hinkler	\$11.21	\$12.18
Holt	\$12.85	\$13.66
Hotham	\$12.12	\$12.92
Hughes	\$12.00	\$13.54
Hume	\$13.01	\$14.97
Hunter	\$11.19	\$12.74
Indi	\$10.32	\$11.35
Isaacs	\$10.81	\$11.55
Jagajaga	\$13.24	\$14.47
Kalgoorlie	\$14.65	\$15.74
Kennedy	\$13.37	\$14.07
Kingsford Smith	\$15.51	\$16.57
Kingston	\$9.24	\$9.91
Kooyong	\$16.85	\$18.36
La Trobe	\$13.84	\$14.98
Lalor	\$11.35	\$12.67
Leichhardt	\$13.52	\$14.49
Lilley	\$13.71	\$14.67

**MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES
AVERAGE PATIENT CONTRIBUTION PER SERVICE
PATIENT BILLED NON-HOSPITAL SERVICES
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)**

<u>Electorate</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Lindsay	\$12.11	\$13.23
Lingiari	\$16.49	\$18.02
Longman	\$9.66	\$10.61
Lowe	\$16.78	\$19.09
Lyne	\$9.47	\$10.55
Lyons	\$9.41	\$10.85
Macarthur	\$12.03	\$13.54
Mackellar	\$17.07	\$19.46
Macquarie	\$12.28	\$13.50
Makin	\$10.05	\$10.73
Mallee	\$10.74	\$12.12
Maranoa	\$11.80	\$13.08
Maribyrnong	\$12.02	\$13.03
Mayo	\$10.41	\$11.51
McEwen	\$12.37	\$13.45
McMillan	\$8.54	\$10.22
McPherson	\$12.65	\$14.29
Melbourne	\$17.12	\$18.15
Melbourne Ports	\$16.46	\$18.40
Menzies	\$14.88	\$15.63
Mitchell	\$17.04	\$19.32
Moncrieff	\$14.79	\$16.22
Moore	\$11.54	\$12.91
Moreton	\$14.54	\$14.27
Murray	\$12.12	\$13.23
New England	\$10.70	\$12.06
Newcastle	\$12.31	\$13.62
North Sydney	\$18.46	\$20.21
O'Connor	\$11.65	\$13.05
Oxley	\$11.48	\$12.25
Page	\$10.70	\$11.83
Parkes	\$11.64	\$13.55
Parramatta	\$14.69	\$14.73
Paterson	\$11.96	\$13.18
Pearce	\$11.54	\$13.02
Perth	\$12.69	\$13.23
Petrie	\$11.72	\$12.26
Port Adelaide	\$10.21	\$9.86
Prospect	\$13.38	\$13.64
Rankin	\$12.98	\$13.34
Reid	\$13.56	\$13.35
Richmond	\$10.37	\$10.88
Riverina	\$12.24	\$13.71
Robertson	\$10.14	\$11.31
Ryan	\$14.27	\$15.36

Scullin	\$11.63	\$12.46
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MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES AVERAGE PATIENT CONTRIBUTION PER SERVICE PATIENT BILLED NON-HOSPITAL SERVICES BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003 (YEAR OF PROCESSING)		
<i><u>Electorate</u></i>	<i><u>2002</u></i>	<i><u>2003</u></i>
Shortland	\$10.21	\$11.67
Solomon	\$18.81	\$20.77
Stirling	\$12.25	\$13.01
Sturt	\$10.94	\$11.69
Swan	\$13.09	\$14.07
Sydney	\$19.30	\$21.42
Tangney	\$15.70	\$16.69
Throsby	\$11.57	\$12.49
Wakefield	\$9.21	\$9.69
Wannon	\$10.47	\$10.70
Warringah	\$18.73	\$20.99
Watson	\$12.33	\$14.08
Wentworth	\$20.26	\$22.46
Werriwa	\$11.19	\$12.56
Wide Bay	\$8.65	\$9.64
Wills	\$12.31	\$12.47
Total	\$12.29	\$13.46

- (d) The electorate-by-electorate breakdown for the number of services total unREFERRED (GP) attendances by Federal Electoral Division for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2003 and 2002 period of processing, is as follows:

MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES
TOTAL NUMBER OF SERVICES
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)

<i><u>Electorate</u></i>	<i><u>2002</u></i>	<i><u>2003</u></i>
Adelaide	671,556	637,668
Aston	707,152	670,215
Ballarat	560,577	539,790
Banks	804,067	775,110
Barker	620,821	606,980
Barton	848,200	821,038
Bass	412,291	396,615
Batman	825,498	783,686
Bendigo	531,490	539,536
Bennelong	711,299	687,892
Berowra	675,802	655,516
Blair	691,900	682,569
Blaxland	1,090,683	1,054,691
Bonner	678,586	640,696
Boothby	675,389	653,848

MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES
TOTAL NUMBER OF SERVICES
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)

<i>Electorate</i>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Bowman	661,845	639,816
Braddon	454,163	425,164
Bradfield	639,223	624,358
Brand	572,344	568,691
Brisbane	553,276	533,719
Bruce	825,846	778,492
Calare	521,988	522,836
Calwell	838,387	811,512
Canberra	615,972	581,064
Canning	544,048	524,968
Capricornia	581,060	573,983
Casey	620,711	580,138
Charlton	580,906	558,709
Chifley	1,074,154	1,032,827
Chisholm	691,348	651,278
Cook	649,125	624,948
Corangamite	528,876	516,962
Corio	579,035	568,060
Cowan	648,126	628,951
Cowper	517,940	516,341
Cunningham	684,106	661,358
Curtin	535,839	521,151
Dawson	621,107	611,417
Deakin	668,558	631,533
Denison	492,157	463,260
Dickson	561,382	550,963
Dobell	627,781	614,138
Dunkley	666,982	631,370
Eden-Monaro	484,638	482,276
Fadden	647,684	637,460
Fairfax	658,163	646,166
Farrer	475,387	478,996
Fisher	691,206	678,622
Flinders	590,314	565,830
Forde	709,735	696,014
Forrest	477,056	486,114
Fowler	1,101,181	1,066,748
Franklin	473,805	450,038
Fraser	620,542	593,398
Fremantle	596,011	571,494
Gellibrand	83 765,818	712,738

MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES
TOTAL NUMBER OF SERVICES
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)

<i>Electorate</i>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Gilmore	553,542	548,000
Gippsland	593,994	598,776
Goldstein	693,022	659,218
Gorton	816,701	782,136
Grayndler	819,846	783,575
Greenway	897,957	886,457
Grey	681,090	689,470
Griffith	648,600	607,476
Groom	610,371	577,543
Gwydir	529,131	540,467
Hasluck	592,889	564,369
Herbert	504,991	538,910
Higgins	634,922	602,828
Hindmarsh	771,354	738,624
Hinkler	603,054	618,530
Holt	778,158	766,560
Hotham	748,324	703,135
Hughes	710,505	688,390
Hume	571,847	559,628
Hunter	531,498	526,936
Indi	486,365	483,138
Isaacs	784,782	743,372
Jagajaga	678,827	642,446
Kalgoorlie	387,431	399,646
Kennedy	568,759	557,400
Kingsford Smith	861,974	825,535
Kingston	721,658	697,521
Kooyong	577,432	541,700
La Trobe	585,772	568,802
Lalor	688,184	654,569
Leichhardt	656,323	634,279
Lilley	685,002	638,239
Lindsay	761,690	722,859
Lingiari	147,651	155,533
Longman	690,958	677,265
Lowe	778,870	759,760
Lyne	634,321	624,666
Lyons	423,892	405,232
Macarthur	846,127	844,518
Mackellar	659,532	633,460

**MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES
TOTAL NUMBER OF SERVICES
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)**

<i>Electorate</i>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Makin	677,924	658,570
Mallee	541,024	529,465
Maranoa	570,958	566,141
Maribyrnong	820,590	761,534
Mayo	596,529	579,377
McEwen	621,979	609,467
McMillan	507,316	503,354
McPherson	643,108	631,086
Melbourne	725,256	690,156
Melbourne Ports	717,732	686,408
Menzies	675,351	643,155
Mitchell	707,452	713,337
Moncrieff	724,189	702,533
Moore	560,874	537,627
Moreton	654,360	620,655
Murray	480,289	480,589
New England	481,748	470,481
Newcastle	630,140	597,798
North Sydney	613,678	594,596
O'Connor	450,105	444,331
Oxley	783,319	754,088
Page	508,688	499,432
Parkes	492,267	513,008
Parramatta	901,661	884,418
Paterson	570,903	563,594
Pearce	560,841	559,051
Perth	662,794	630,279
Petrie	679,989	644,736
Port Adelaide	917,503	873,590
Prospect	1,012,356	981,933
Rankin	837,486	795,949
Reid	1,053,757	1,014,718
Richmond	630,242	612,978
Riverina	450,559	460,548
Robertson	671,153	665,970
Ryan	529,047	510,472
Scullin	800,635	764,533
Shortland	603,441	577,574

Solomon	234,067	218,199
Stirling	699,935	667,171
Sturt	749,408	717,845

MEDICARE: NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES		
TOTAL NUMBER OF SERVICES		
BY ELECTORATE - 2002 & 2003		
(YEAR OF PROCESSING)		
<i><u>Electorate</u></i>	<i><u>2002</u></i>	<i><u>2003</u></i>
Swan	600,713	579,902
Sydney	809,016	787,483
Tangney	593,706	571,405
Throsby	782,543	792,359
Wakefield	773,224	780,028
Wannon	528,021	521,917
Warringah	666,585	637,152
Watson	972,058	923,425
Wentworth	672,452	647,184
Werriwa	982,776	972,572
Wide Bay	620,253	641,301
Wills	896,921	847,706
Total	98,557,731	95,595,523

Notes to the Statistics

These statistics relate to non-referred (general practitioner) attendances that were rendered on a 'fee-for-service' basis and for which benefits were processed by the Health Insurance Commission in the respective periods. Excluded are details of non-referred attendances to public patients in hospital, to Department of Veterans' Affairs patients and some compensation cases.

These statistics are based on 2004 electorate boundaries.

The statistics were compiled from Medicare data by patient enrolment (mailing address) postcode. Where a postcode overlapped electoral boundaries, the statistics were allocated to electorate using a concordance file derived from Population Census data. This can result in some data being erroneously allocated to an adjoining electorate. Data for people using post office boxes or private mail bags is excluded from electorate reporting as this cannot be appropriately allocated.

Average out-of-pocket costs relate to non-hospital patient billed services and are the difference between aggregate fees charged and aggregate benefits paid, divided by the number of services. It is not possible to compile accurate statistics on the average patient contribution per service for patient billed services in-hospital, since the Medicare system does not record gap payments under private health insurance arrangements.

Totals in the various tables may not agree with totals published elsewhere, since some postcodes cannot be allocated to electorates.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-025

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: BULK BILLING STATISTICS - UNREFERRED (GP)

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

- (a) What are the state and territory breakdowns of the percentage of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed for period of processing ending 31 December for 2004, 2003 and 2002?
- (b) What are the state and territory breakdowns of the number of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed for the period of processing ending 31 December for 2004, 2003 and 2002?
- (c) What are the state and territory breakdowns for the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for total unREFERRED (GP) attendances for the period of processing ending 31 December for 2004, 2003 and 2002?
- (d) What are the state and territory breakdowns for the number of services for total unREFERRED (GP) attendances for the period of processing ending 31 December for 2004, 2003 and 2002?

Answer:

Note: Statistics for the December quarter 2004 are expected to be available after 11 February 2005.

- (a) The state and territory breakdowns of the percentage of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed for period of processing ending 31 December 2003 and 2002, is as follows:

MEDICARE - NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES % SERVICES BULK BILLED BY STATE/TERRITORY (BASED ON PATIENT ENROLMENT POSTCODE) DECEMBER QUARTERS 2002 AND 2003		
<i>State/Territory</i>	<i>December Quarter</i>	
	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
New South Wales	77.4%	75.7%
Victoria	67.8%	63.6%
Queensland	65.2%	61.7%
South Australia	62.5%	60.6%
Western Australia	66.6%	62.5%
Tasmania	55.6%	48.4%
Northern Territory	63.3%	60.2%
Aust Capital Territory	38.1%	34.9%
Total	69.6%	66.5%

- (c) The state and territory breakdowns of the number of total unreferral (GP) attendances bulk billed for the period of processing ending 31 December for 2003 and 2002, is as follows:

MEDICARE - NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES NUMBER OF SERVICES BULK BILLED BY STATE/TERRITORY (BASED ON PATIENT ENROLMENT POSTCODE) DECEMBER QUARTERS 2002 AND 2003		
<i>State/Territory</i>	<i>December Quarter</i>	
	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
New South Wales	6,521,096	6,319,846
Victoria	4,016,520	3,649,294
Queensland	2,789,944	2,644,808
South Australia	1,171,734	1,121,709
Western Australia	1,386,105	1,298,031
Tasmania	299,651	255,006
Northern Territory	85,397	78,432
Aust Capital Territory	111,241	100,195
Total	16,381,688	15,467,321

- (c) The state and territory breakdowns for the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for total unreferral (GP) attendances for the period of processing ending 31 December for 2003 and 2002, is as follows:

MEDICARE - NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES AVERAGE PATIENT CONTRIBUTION PER SERVICE PATIENT BILLED NON-HOSPITAL SERVICES (BASED ON PATIENT ENROLMENT POSTCODE) DECEMBER QUARTERS 2002 AND 2003		
<u>State/Territory</u>	<u>December Quarter</u>	
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
New South Wales	\$13.29	\$14.95
Victoria	\$12.94	\$13.97
Queensland	\$12.66	\$13.81
South Australia	\$10.58	\$11.29
Western Australia	\$13.13	\$14.29
Tasmania	\$9.78	\$11.13
Northern Territory	\$18.61	\$20.40
Aust Capital Territory	\$16.36	\$18.55
Total	\$12.78	\$14.03

- (d) The state and territory breakdowns for the number of services for total unreferral (GP) attendances for the period of processing ending 31 December for 2003 and 2002, is as follows:

MEDICARE - NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES TOTAL NO. OF SERVICES BY STATE/TERRITORY (BASED ON PATIENT ENROLMENT POSTCODE) DECEMBER QUARTERS 2002 AND 2003		
<u>State/Territory</u>	<u>December Quarter</u>	
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
New South Wales	8,421,317	8,346,782
Victoria	5,920,506	5,735,479
Queensland	4,278,236	4,287,922
South Australia	1,875,852	1,851,151
Western Australia	2,082,278	2,077,773
Tasmania	539,285	527,373
Northern Territory	134,957	130,271
Aust Capital Territory	292,002	286,709
Total	23,544,433	23,243,460

Notes to the Statistics

These statistics relate to non-referred (general practitioner) attendances that were rendered on a 'fee-for-service' basis and for which benefits were processed by the Health Insurance Commission in the respective periods. Excluded are details of non-referred attendances to public patients in hospital, to Department of Veterans' Affairs patients and some compensation cases.

The statistics were compiled from Medicare data by patient enrolment (mailing address) postcode.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-026

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: BULK BILLING STATISTICS - UNREFERRED (GP)

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

- (a) What is the RRMA-by-RRMA breakdown for the percentage of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2004, 2003 and 2002 period of processing?
- (b) What is the RRMA-by-RRMA breakdown of the number of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed by Federal Electoral Division for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2004, 2003 and 2002 period of processing?
- (c) What is the RRMA-by-RRMA breakdown for the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for total unREFERRED (GP) attendances by Federal Electoral Division for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2004, 2003 and 2002 period of processing?
- (d) What is the RRMA-by-RRMA breakdown for the number of services for total unREFERRED (GP) attendances by Federal Electoral Division for 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2004, 2003 and 2002 period of processing?

Answer:

Note: Statistics for calendar year 2004 are expected to be available after 11 February 2005.

- (a) The RRMA-by-RRMA breakdown for the percentage of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed for the 12 months (ending 31 December) for 2003 and 2002 period of processing, is as follows:

MEDICARE - NON-REFERRED (GP) ATTENDANCES		
PERCENTAGE OF SERVICES BULK BILLED		
BY RURAL, REMOTE & METROPOLITAN AREA		
BASED ON PATIENT ENROLMENT POSTCODE		
2002 & 2003 (YEAR OF PROCESSING)		
<i>Region</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>
Capital City	77.9%	73.0%
Other Metro Centre	69.8%	66.2%
Large Rural Centre	56.7%	51.7%
Small Rural Centre	56.6%	53.2%
Other Rural	55.0%	52.1%
Remote Centre	58.3%	58.6%
Other Remote Area	70.4%	70.5%
Other	57.9%	56.4%
Total	72.3%	67.7%

(b), (c) and (d) While Medicare statistics can be compiled by Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Area or by Federal electorate, the statistics are not available by RRMA by electorate. Many electorates will contain areas in different RRMA's.

Notes to the Statistics

These statistics relate to non-referred (general practitioner) attendances that were rendered on a 'fee-for-service' basis and for which benefits were processed by the Health Insurance Commission in the respective periods. Excluded are details of non-referred attendances to public patients in hospital, to Department of Veterans' Affairs patients and some compensation cases.

The statistics were compiled from Medicare data by patient enrolment (mailing address) postcode.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-027

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: BULK BILLING STATISTICS - UNREFERRED (GP)

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

For the 12 months to 31 December 2004, what is breakdown by RRMA of the percentage of general practitioners who bulk billed for unREFERRED services in the following bands: less than 5%; 5% to 25%; 25% to 50%; 50% to 70%; 70% to 75%; 75% to 80%; 80% to 95%; greater than 95%? Include only those GPs who provided 1,000 or more unREFERRED services in the period.

Answer:

Statistics for calendar year 2004 are expected to be available after 11 February 2005. However, for the 12 months to 31 September 2004, the breakdown by Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Area classification of the percentage of general practitioners with claims for 1,000 or more unREFERRED services, by bulk billed range, is as follows:

MEDICARE: NUMBER OF GP PROVIDERS OF 1,000 NON-REF (GP) ATTENDANCES BY PERCENTAGE OF ATTENDANCES BULK BILLED AND BY RURAL, REMOTE AND METROPOLITAN AREA (RRMA) 12 MONTHS ENDING SEPTEMBER 2004 (YEAR OF PROCESSING)								
<u>Percentage Bulk Billed Range</u>	<u>Capital City</u>	<u>Other Metro Centre</u>	<u>Large Rural Centre</u>	<u>Small Rural Centre</u>	<u>Other Rural</u>	<u>Remote Centre</u>	<u>Other Remote Area</u>	<u>Total</u>
A: > 95%	3,705	340	180	141	256	44	102	4,768
B:80- 95%	1,579	203	97	122	205	13	35	2,254
C:75-<80%	503	59	41	84	118	15	16	836
D:70-<75%	553	48	56	62	118	5	10	852
E:50-<70%	2,172	193	195	288	555	44	27	3,474
F:25-<50%	2,262	286	320	375	619	36	14	3,912
G: 5-<25%	1,319	221	234	189	284	28	13	2,288
H: < 5%	316	74	54	26	55	8	4	537
Total	12,409	1,424	1,177	1,287	2,210	193	221	18,921

Note: Non-referred (GP) attendances excludes practice nurse items.

Notes to the Statistics

These statistics relate to non-referred (general practitioner) attendances that were rendered by general practitioners who provided more than 1,000 annual services on a 'fee-for-service' basis and for which benefits were processed by the Health Insurance Commission in the 12 months ending 30 September 2004. Excluded are details of non-referred attendances to public patients in hospital, to Department of Veterans' Affairs patients and some compensation cases.

In general terms, practitioners were taken to be general practitioners, if they had more than 50 per cent of Schedule fee income in the September quarter 2004, from non-referred (general practitioner) attendances. The allocation of practitioners to RRMA was also based on major practice postcode in the September quarter 2004.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-060

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: BULK BILLING STATISTICS - UNREFERRED (GP)

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

- (a) What is the electorate-by-electorate breakdown of the percentage of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed by Federal Electoral Division for the 3 month period of processing ending 31 December for 2004, 2003 and 2002?
- (b) What is the electorate-by-electorate breakdown of the number of total unREFERRED (GP) attendances bulk billed by Federal Electoral Division for the 3 month period of processing ending 31 December for 2004, 2003 and 2002?
- (c) What is the electorate-by-electorate breakdown for the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for total unREFERRED (GP) attendances by Federal Electoral Division for the 3 month period of processing ending 31 December for 2004, 2003 and 2002?
- (d) What is the electorate-by-electorate breakdown for the number of services for total unREFERRED (GP) attendances by Federal Electoral Division for the 3 month period of processing ending 31 December for 2004, 2003 and 2002?

Answer:

(a)-(d)

Medicare statistics by electorate are no longer produced on a quarterly basis. Statistics by electorate are available on a calendar year basis.

Statistics for calendar years 2002 and 2003 have been provided in response to Question E04-024. Statistics for calendar year 2004 are expected to be available on 11 February 2005.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-036

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: IVF

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

- (a) In response to question E03-065 the Department provided a table on “Benefits Paid for IVF procedures 1998-2002”. Please update this table with the latest available statistics.
- (b) Does the table provided in response to question E03-065 include benefits paid for intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI)? If not please provide a table with the latest figures for benefits paid for ICSI from 1998 to present.

Answer:

- (a) The cost to the Commonwealth for procedures associated with in-vitro fertilisation under Medicare from 1998-2003 is outlined in the following table.

Benefits Paid for IVF procedures 1998 – 2003

Year	Benefits paid
1998	\$ 36,963,660
1999	\$ 38,748,330
2000	\$ 39,287,640
2001	\$ 43,335,848
2002	\$ 46,048,788
2003	\$ 50,013,955

Cost of IVF Pharmaceuticals 1997/98 – 2003/04

Year	Expenditure
1997/98	\$ 17,741,445
1998/99	\$ 25,205,054
1999/00	\$ 26,811,249
2000/01	\$ 30,343,574
2001/02	\$ 31,247,659
2002/03	\$ 33,922,206
2003/04	\$ 38,169,223

- (b) Medicare benefits are not payable for ICSI.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-037

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

In answer to question E04-095 the Department said it was “not aware of any investigations involving Dr de Crespigny” [who performed an abortion on a 32-week-old unborn baby at Royal Women's Hospital Melbourne].

- a) As the question was asked in June during Budget Estimates, does the Department have any new awareness of the activities of the Medical Practitioners Board in relation to Dr de Crespigny? If not, does the Department consider this not an issue worth its attention?
- b) The Department says that if it “is made aware of circumstances where an individual’s professional conduct may give reasonable cause to question their capacity to provide sound advice, then the Department will take appropriate action.”
- c) Please explain what is meant by “appropriate action”, both generally and in respect of Dr de Crespigny.

Answer:

- a) The Department has not received any advice about Dr de Crespigny’s activities since June 2004. In Victoria, when a practitioner is investigated and no charges are made, or they are only reprimanded, then the practitioner’s name is not released in the public domain and we would not be aware that an investigation had taken place. However, if Dr de Crespigny were to be deregistered by a medical board, the Health Insurance Commission (HIC) would be notified and his patients would no longer be eligible to claim Medicare benefits. The HIC would be responsible for ensuring that benefits were not claimed.
- b) and c) Dr de Crespigny has not provided advice to the Department or to the Medical Services Advisory Committee since the advisory panel of which he was a member ceased to function in May 2002.

Action the Department might consider appropriate where an individual’s capacity to provide sound advice might reasonably be questioned would depend upon the particular circumstances, including the grounds for questioning their capacity, and the nature of the advice they were providing. Therefore, it is not possible to comment on what might constitute “appropriate action” in general or hypothetically.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates November 2004

Question: E04-040

OUTCOME 2: ACCESS TO MEDICARE

Topic: ABORTION

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

- (a) Please advise of the statistical evidence on which the Department funds induced abortions. Is there any justification on the grounds of evidence based medicine for funding induced abortions? If so, please provide details and copies of any work done. What is the cost effective analysis of funding induced abortions, in particular relative to other health priorities and interventions? Please provide details and copies of any work done.
- (b) What is the Department's best estimate of the number of induced abortions carried out each year in Australia for the past five financial years? Please provide details of how those numbers were calculated.
- (c) There has been comment in the media that there are no nationwide accurate collections of statistics on induced abortion. What work has the Department done to determine how to collect accurate national statistics on abortion? What would need to be done to collect more accurate figures on induced abortion? Please provide a copy of any work produced on this question.

Answer:

- (a) The Department has not undertaken any analysis of the statistical or evidence base for induced abortions. There has been no work done on the cost effectiveness of induced abortions relative to other health priorities and interventions.
- (b) There is no single authoritative or complete data source on induced abortions in Australia. This means that it is not possible to give a definite number of induced abortions in Australia each year. The Department's best estimate of the number of induced abortions in Australia is within the range of 73,000-95,000 each year. This is based on an extrapolation of the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) data set, hospital morbidity data and some States' data sets where induced abortions are notified to a central data registry (SA and WA).
- (c) The Department has not done any work to determine how to collect national statistics on abortion. This type of work would normally be done by a body like the Australian Institute for Health and Welfare.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates November 2004

Question: E04-041

OUTCOME 2: ACCESS TO MEDICARE

Topic: ABORTIONS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

There has been comment in the media that Medicare item number statistics on induced abortion also include other procedures. Is this true? Please provide a detailed explanation of what other procedures items 35643 and 16525 include. Is there a way to reform the HIC Medicare item numbers so that there is no ambiguity as to whether a claim is for an induced abortion? Please provide details of how that might be achieved.

Answer:

Medicare item number statistics for items 35643 and 16525 include procedures other than induced abortions.

Item 35643 would be used for the treatment of missed abortion, where the foetus has died but has not been expelled from the uterus and trophoblastic disease such as hydatitiform mole. The conditions covered under item 16525 are intrauterine foetal death, gross foetal abnormality or life threatening maternal disease. The decision to use item 16525 would be a clinical judgment made by the medical practitioner dependent on the circumstances of the case.

The item descriptors used in the Medicare Benefits Schedule are developed in close consultation with the medical profession through the Medicare Benefits Consultative Committee (MBCC). Under the MBCC arrangements, items are reviewed following a submission from a professional medical craft group or by a reference from the Department of Health & Ageing. There have not been any submissions from the profession seeking a review of these items. In August 2004, the Department sought to clarify the use of item 35643 with the medical profession. However, the professional members of the MBCC did not want to proceed without more widespread consultation.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-043

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: ABORTION

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harridine asked:

Please explain the Department's understanding of "gross foetal abnormality" for the purposes of a Medicare refund in second trimester abortion and whether this includes correctable conditions like cleft palate, hair lip or whether it includes conditions like missing fingers or dwarfism.

Answer:

The item descriptors used in the Medicare Benefits Schedule are developed in close consultation with the medical profession through the Medicare Benefits Consultative Committee (MBCC). The current item descriptor for item 16525 is based on advice from the Royal Australian College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RACOG).

The interpretation of the term "gross foetal abnormality" is a matter for the doctor's concerned clinical judgment.

Questions of clinical practice arising in relation to terminations are matters for State and Territory health authorities and appropriate professional medical authorities. It is not a matter for Medicare.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-011

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: PBS PATIENT CO-PAYMENTS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

Growth rate for the PBS

What is the anticipated percentage growth rate for the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, using the 02/03 year as a base year, for 04/05, 05/06, and 06/07?

Answer:

PBS Actual and Forward Estimate Expenditure

	Actual 2002-03 \$'001	Actual 2003-04 \$'000	Expected forward estimates* 2004-05 \$'000	Expected forward estimates* 2005-06 \$'000	Expected forward estimates* 2006-07 \$'000
Total PBS Expense	5,054	5,607	6,031	6,248	6,665
Annual Growth Total PBS Expense		10.9%	7.56%	3.4%	6.7%

Please note:

These figures for 2004-05 to 2006-07 are taken from Budget Paper 1, Statement 6: Expenses and Net Capital investment of the *Budget Strategy and Outlook 2004-05* (this is the most recent source of published information on PBS expenditure).

The expected figures for 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 excludes spending on the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and some other minor Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme programs. Actual figures for 2002-03 and 2003-04 includes spending on some minor PBS programs. Therefore, whilst reasonable comparisons can be made between actual and expected figures, they would not be entirely accurate.

The government's election commitment to introduce mandatory price reductions for new brands of PBS-listed medicines is not factored into these estimates.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-012

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: PBS PATIENT CO-PAYMENTS – SAVINGS OF INCREASING THE PATIENT CHARGE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

What is the estimated savings to the budget patient charge from 1 January 2005 in dollar terms of increasing the patient charge for 04/05, 05/06 and 06/07?

Answer:

Increasing patient co-payments from 1 January 2005 is estimated to result in savings of approximately \$638 million over the years specified*:

2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
\$m	\$m	\$m
-\$120.6	-\$266.2	-\$251.0

* Source – National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits – Budget Measures) Bill 2004 – Supplementary Explanatory Memorandum

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-013

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: PBS PATIENT CO-PAYMENTS – PATIENT CHARGE PROPORTION OF TOTAL AVERAGE COST

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

What proportion of the total average cost per script will the patient charge comprise in 04/05, 05/06 and 06/07?

Answer:

In 2003-04, the total cost for Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescriptions (including both Government expenditure and patient co-payment amounts) was approximately \$5.938 billion. Government expenditure accounted for \$5 billion (84.2%) and patient contributions accounted for \$938 million (15.8%). (Note – these figures do not reconcile with those in the Department of Health and Ageing's Annual Report, where reporting is on an accrual basis. Patient contribution information is only available on a cash basis).

These figures refer to prescriptions for which a subsidy is paid. It does not include prescriptions for general patients where the dispensed price of the prescription is less than the general patient co-payment. For these, the patient pays the lesser amount in full, and no subsidy is involved.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-014

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: PBS PATIENT CO-PAYMENTS – IMPACT ON PATIENT BEHAVIOUR OF INCREASE IN PATIENT CHARGE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

- (a) What modelling has the Government undertaken to determine the impact on patient behaviour of the increase in the patient charge, specifically, the anticipated fall in the number of scripts filled?
- (b) What are the results of any such modelling?
- (c) If the Government had not undertaken such modelling, why not?

Answer:

(a), (b) and (c) The Government predicted a minor change in script volumes from the effects of the increase in price signal to consumers. As a result of increasing the co-payment amounts, it was estimated that there will be a decrease in the number of prescriptions of approximately 0.5%.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-015

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: PBS PATIENT CO-PAYMENTS – IMPACT ON PATIENT BEHAVIOUR OF
INCREASE IN PATIENT CO-PAYMENTS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

What plans does the government have to examine the impact of patient behaviour and health outcomes of the increase in the patient charge?

Answer:

The Government will continue to monitor Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prescriptions and cost.

The Government has no plans to undertake a specific analysis of patient behaviour and health outcomes as a result of the increase in patient co-payments.

The Government does not hold data on the actual prices paid or volumes of prescriptions filled by pharmacists for medicines priced at less than the mandated PBS co-payments. It is therefore not possible to monitor changes in this area.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-016

OUTCOME 2: Access to Medicare

Topic: PBS PATIENT CO-PAYMENTS – INCREASE IN PATIENT CHARGE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

The Treasurer has publicly stated that the Government will need to use the patient charge to reduce the cost to the budget of the PBS. Does the Government have any plans to increase the patient charge again? If so, please provide details.

Answer:

Currently, the Government has no plans to increase patient co-payments outside normal indexation changes, which occur on 1 January each year. The increase to patient co-payments with effect from 1 January 2005 will take the place of indexation changes that would otherwise occur. Indexation of patient co-payments and safety net thresholds will resume with effect from 1 January 2006.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-028

OUTCOME 7: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

Topic: PHCAP EXPENDITURE

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

- (a) What was the final total amount expended under PHCAP for 2003-04?
- Please provide an updated table of expenditure on PHCAP by specific site including 2002-03 expenditure, 2003-04 expenditure and 2004-05 expenditure to date?
- (b) What was the total amount of PHCAP funding that was re-phased from the 2003-04 financial year to the current 2004-05 financial year?
- Please provide the amount re-phased from each specific site.
- (c) What is the final total amount of funding allocated to PHCAP for 2004-05?
- Please provide an updated table as provided in answer to question E04-200 (a) Budget Estimates 2004.

Answer:

- (a) The total Primary Health Care Access Program (PHCAP) funds expended in 2002-03 was \$14.6 million. Expenditure in 2002-03 by organisation is set out below.

2002-03 PHCAP Expenditure				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Grand Total
NT	Top End and Central Australia	Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance for the NT	Employment of 2 Project Officers for Central Australia and Top End to facilitate the implementation of PHCAP	\$229,727
	Tiwi	Department of Health and Community Services	Operational costs in relation to Tiwi	\$296,384
		Tiwi Health Board	Funding for services	\$790,388
	Katherine West	Katherine West Health Board	Health services – post coordinated care trial	\$2,627,592
	Katherine East	Katherine East	Health services – post coordinated care trial	\$200,000
	Statewide	Department of Health and Community Service	Capital - housing and clinics	\$3,983,000
		Various	Planning studies and reviews	\$870,790
NT TOTAL				\$8,997,881

State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
SA	North Metro	Nunkuarrin Yunti Incorporated	Funding for services to North Metro Region	\$553,000
	Wakefiled	Goreta Aboriginal Corporation	Capital Works – renovation of existing building	\$34,485
	Port Augusta	Pika Wiya Health Service Inc	Redevelopment of Nunyara Wellbeing Centre	\$73,636
	Riverland	Riverland Regional health Service	Development of a regional plan	\$72,350
SA TOTAL				\$733,471
QLD	Torres	Torres Straits Regional Authority	Development of a regional plan	\$50,000
	Gulf	Karboyick Larkinjar Aboriginal Corporation for Health	Development of organizational capacity	\$150,000
	Cook	Apunipima Cape York Health Council Aboriginal Corp	Provision of health services	\$402,000
	Statewide	Various	Planning and development work	\$55,638
QLD TOTAL				\$657,638
WA	South West	South West Aboriginal Medical Service	Contribution to coordinated care trial	\$1,519,613
		Department Of Health Western Australia	Support for coordinated care trials	\$729,638
		Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Inc	Health services – post coordinated care trial	\$477,649
WA TOTAL				\$2,030,917
NSW	Far West	Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corp	Health services – post coordinated care trial	\$696,452
NSW TOTAL				\$696,452
National	National	Various	National projects including reviews, statistical analysis and information systems	\$744,289
NAT TOTAL				\$744,289
TOTAL				14,556,631*

* Amounts identified in the table include corrections to the 2002-03 expenditure table provided in answer to question E04-182 Additional Estimates 2004. In particular, that answer included some cash payments against capital grants that under the different accrual treatment that applied prior to 2002-03 had been expensed in prior years. An unexpended balance of funds for 2002-03 of \$21.722m was re-phased into 2003-04 and 2004-05 to meet capital commitments.

The total PHCAP funds either expended, or committed to capital works, in 2003-04 was \$47.7 million. Of this \$12.5 million relates to commitments for capital works projects for which expenditure will be incurred in 2004-05 and 2005-06. Expenditure in 2003-04 by organisation is set out below.

2003-04 PHCAP Expenditure				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
ACT	ACT	Carers ACT	Initial set up costs and part year salary of an Indigenous counsellor position	\$11,367
		National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health	Publication of a community booklet for Indigenous drug users in the ACT	\$18,348
		Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Clinic	Minor capital works at Narrabundah Health Centre	\$150,000

ACT Total				\$179,715	
NAT	National	Australian National University	Consultancies	\$23,169	
		Health Insurance Commission	HIC liaison officer	\$125,000	
		Other consultancies	Consultancies	\$108,095	
		Primary Health Care Review	Consultancies	\$337,930	
NAT Total				\$594,194	
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total	
NSW	Central Coast	Yerin Aboriginal Health Service	Medical and administrative equipment	\$23,500	
			Services – GP, nurse, medical receptionist, vehicle leasing (salaries and on-costs)	\$68,332	
	Central West	Thubbo Aboriginal Medical Co-operative	Security system upgrade to service	\$5,182	
	Far West	Bourke Aboriginal Health service	Clinic – Bourke	\$313,716	
			Clinic – Dareton	\$342,230	
			Clinic – Brewarrina	\$224,000	
			Clinic – Moree	\$215,400	
			Eye health equipment	\$13,682	
			For repairs to the dental clinic	\$23,600	
			Security system upgrade to service	\$2,082	
			Time-limited regional IT project officer	\$104,635	
	Upgrade staff housing	\$22,095			
			Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation	PHC services associated with CCT	\$631,291
	Greater Murray	Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service	Medical equipment and clinic set-up	\$50,000	
			Services – medical officer, medical receptionist, vehicle leasing, administration	\$58,332	
			Implementation of a new PIRS	\$39,411	
			Medical equipment and minor capital works	\$76,900	
			Services – 0.4 nurse, 0.4 AHW, vehicle leasing	\$17,582	
	Illawarra	South Coast Women’s Health and Welfare Corporation	Patient information systems and office equipment	\$8,968	
Macquarie	Wellington Aboriginal Corporation	Administrative equipment	\$4,691		
		Board training	\$4,720		
		Minor clinic upgrade	\$7,000		
		Social and emotional welfare support worker	\$43,200		
		Upgrade secure storage for files	\$7,482		
Mid Western	Condobolin Aboriginal Medical Service	Medical equipment and minor capital works at Peak Hill	\$105,000		
		Services – AHW, patient transport, vehicle leasing	\$28,750		
	Wellington Aboriginal Corporation	Consultancy project for Orange clinic	\$20,000		
		Medical equipment and minor capital works projects for Orange clinic	\$70,000		

		Staffing (GP, nurse, program coordinator, medical receptionist, 2 AHW, administration), vehicle leasing and operational costs for Orange clinic	\$67,166
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State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
	New England	Armidale and District Services	Medical equipment, furniture and minor capital works	\$45,000
		Pius X Aboriginal Corporation	Consultancy project for Tamworth clinic	\$20,000
			Medical equipment and minor capital works projects for outreach service to Mungindi	\$85,000
		Pius X cont'd	Medical equipment and minor capital works projects for Tamworth clinic	\$70,000
			Purchase medical equipment required for the visiting gynaecologist program	\$23,397
			Services – AHW, vehicle leasing for outreach service to Mungindi	\$25,000
			Staffing (GP, nurse, program coordinator, medical receptionist, 2 AHW, administration), vehicle leasing and operational costs for Tamworth clinic	\$67,166
	Northern Rivers	Bugalwena Service	Services – Health Worker, registered nurse and counsellor	\$63,195
		Bulgarr Ngara Medical Aboriginal Corporation	To purchase resources associated with the implementation of a nutrition and physical activity initiative	\$20,000
		Dharah Gibinj Aboriginal Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation	Medical equipment and office furniture	\$26,700
			PIRS partnership project – multi site, multi use PIRS with remote access	\$76,000
			Services – medical officer, AHW, program manager, vehicle leasing	\$67,082
	South Coast	South Coast Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation	Building maintenance	\$4,797
			Office equipment	\$7,626
			Security system upgrade to service	\$10,532
	West Sydney	Marrin Weejali Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Service	Clinic – Emerton	\$339,500
NSW Total				\$3,549,942
NT	Alice Springs	Central Australia Aboriginal Alcohol Program Unit	Substance Misuse Facility – Rogonesi Rd	\$104,300
	Central Australia	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc	Health Service Development Officers	\$110,729
		NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Primary health care services throughout Central Australia	\$2,455,938
	Darwin	Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services Inc	Action plan for Men's health	\$50,000
		Danila Dilba Health Service	1 Youth Psychologist, 2 Community health workers, operational costs and patient transport	\$111,009
			Planning – Palmerston	\$75,000
			Youth Project for Palmerston	\$30,000
	Katherine	Wurli Wurlinjang Health Service	Capital – Purchase ESWB building	\$260,000
	Katherine East	Kalano Community Association Inc	Clinic – Venn Block 30 km SW Katherine	\$655,000
		Sunrise	Board Capacity Building	\$200,000

		Ngukurr transfer/expansion	\$230,000
Katherine West	Katherine West Health Board	Services funding	\$3,156,806
North East Arnhem	Laynhapuy Homelands Association Incorporated	Clinic – Nhulunbuy	\$285,000
	Margarr Community Government Council	Clinic – Nhulunbuy	\$150,000
	Ramingining Homelands Resource Centre	Clinic – Winnelie	\$132,500

State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
	Northern Barkly	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc	Minor Capital	\$20,000
			Nurse, General practitioner, administrative assistant, patient transport and operational costs	\$278,300
			Patient transport, patient info systems	\$98,300
	NT Wide	AMSANT	PHCAP AMSANT officers	\$257,000
		CARHDS	Central Australia Aboriginal health Worker Forum	\$57,000
		NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Nutrition Workshop and Guidelines	\$100,000
			Specialist services	\$100,000
		St John Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc	First Aid training	\$45,000
	The Synod of the Dioceses of the NT Inc	Suicide Intervention Training	\$90,000	
	Pitjantjatjara	Imanpa Community Council Inc	Clinic Maintenance	\$56,300
	South East Top End	Gulf Health Service Incorporated	Borroloola staff housing	\$984,064
			Governance training	\$50,000
			Refurbish GP housing	\$115,000
		Mungoorbada Aboriginal Corporation	Robinson River 2b/r duplex	\$1,262,136
	NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Planning – SE Top End	\$70,000	
	Tiwi	Aboriginal and Islander Alcohol Awareness and Family Recovery Inc (Pirlangimpi)	Clinic – Pirlangimpi, Melville Island	\$55,125
		NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Nguiu – construction of clinic	\$1,148,236
		Tiwi Health Board	Funds Administrator	\$112,448
	Services funding		\$1,359,846	
	Walpiri	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc	Additional GP position and operational costs	\$65,236
			Nurse, General practitioner, 2 community health workers, administrative assistant, patient transport and operational costs	\$272,253
			Patient transport, patient information systems	\$118,600
			Salary for Aboriginal Liaison Officer	\$20,366
Mt Theo/Yuendumu Substance Misuse Aboriginal Corporation		Clinic – Mt Theo	\$145,000	
West Arnhem	Djabulugku Association Inc	Men's health project; Community health sub-committee	\$67,205	
		Staff housing purchase in Jabiru	\$214,355	
NT Total			\$15,168,052	

QLD	Atherton Croydon	Mamu Health Service	Feasibility study to examine service needs at Ravenshoe	\$35,000
			Outreach service to Ravenshoe additional costs of feasibility study	\$5,715
		Queensland Ambulance Services	First Aid Courses and First Aid Kits	\$12,000
		Wuchopperen Health Service	Outreach to Midin clinic – GP, p/t nurse, 3 AHW, coordinator, receptionist, patient transport	\$329,400
Atherton/Croydon	Mulungu Aboriginal Corp Medical Centre	Regional planning for Atherton/Croydon	\$45,000	

State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total	
	Cairns	Gindja Substance Misuse Aboriginal Corporation	Patient Information Systems	\$30,000	
	Cape	Apunipima Cape York	Upgrade of office to comply with building code regulations	\$51,000	
		Royal Flying Doctor Service	Promotional video for men's health	\$15,000	
Qld cont'd	Central Highlands	Bidgerdii Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Establishment costs associated with outreach services to Blackwater, Bluff, Dingo and Duaringa	\$42,871	
			Establishment costs for primary health care outpost at Biloela	\$9,167	
			Outreach services to Blackwater, Bluff, Dingo and Duaringa – nurse, centre manager, administration, substance use worker, allied health and specialist services, patient transport	\$124,342	
			Primary health care outpost at Biloela – senior AHW, administration, transport	\$26,793	
			Services – 2 AHW to provide outreach services to Blackwater, Dingo and Bluff	\$44,515	
			QLD OATSIH	Regional planning for Central Highlands	\$98,839
			Woorabinda Aboriginal Council	Community health worker accommodation	\$67,100
	Cook and Cairns	Aborigines and Islanders Alcohol Relief Service Limited (AIARS)	Patient Information Systems	\$30,000	
	Gladstone	Geghre Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Child and maternal health equipment	\$15,000	
			Office equipment	\$4,000	
	Gulf	Karboyick Larkinjar Aboriginal Corporation	Regional planning for Gulf	\$56,428	
	Hitchinbrook	Ferdy's Haven	Minor capital upgrades to clinic	\$45,000	
	Ipswich and West Moreton	Kambu Medical Service Inc	Clinic – Ipswich	\$611,382	
			Patient Information Systems	\$20,958	
Patient transport			\$42,009		
Mt Isa	Yapatjarra Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Enhancement of existing primary health care services – nurse, 2 AHW, sexual health coordinator, outreach coordinator, administration, substance use worker, social worker, allied health and specialist services	\$200,546		
		Land purchase for extension of clinic and feasibility study	\$130,000		
		Review of regional centre plan	\$11,954		
		Upgrade to existing premises	\$40,000		

		Services – GP, diabetes outreach	\$42,500
Mt Isa/Inland	QLD OATSIH	Regional planning for Mt Isa/Inland	\$98,839
Near South West	Charleville and Western Areas Aboriginal Health	Establishment and set up costs associated with outreach services to Roma	\$32,871
		GP accommodation and redevelopment of Roma clinic to include GP consulting room	\$400,000
		Outreach services to Roma – GP, nurse, clinic manager, AHW, substance use worker, allied health specialist services, p/t program coordinator, administration, PIRS, patient transport	\$139,400
	Goondir Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Development of St George clinic	\$100,000
		Clinic – Dalby	\$615,800
		Outreach services to St George	\$2,871

State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total	
Qld cont'd	Near SW cont'd	Goondir cont'd	Outreach services to St George – GP, nurse, AHW, substance use worker, allied health and specialist services, p/t program coordinator, administration, PIRS, patient transport	\$195,682	
		QLD OATSIH office	Regional planning for Near South West	\$98,839	
	Rockhampton	Bidgerdii Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Patient Information Systems	\$56,000	
		Milbi Incorporated	Patient Information Systems	\$15,000	
	South Coast and Hinterland	Kalwun Health Service	Patient Information Systems	\$40,000	
	Statewide	Qld Aboriginal and Islander Health Forum (QAIHF)	PHCAP planning and implementation activities statewide	\$391,231	
			Relocation and refurbishment of QAIHF Offices 24 Logan Road Woolloongabba	\$38,673	
		Royal Flying Doctor Service	2 RFDS Health Liaison Officers	\$40,000	
	Sunshine Coast and Cooloola	North Coast Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health	Minor capital upgrades to clinic	\$3,500	
	Toowoomba	Goolburri Aboriginal Health Advancement Corporation	Minor capital upgrades to clinic	\$63,000	
	Torres Strait	Northern Peninsular Area Women's Shelter ATSI	Upgrade staff housing to meet safety codes	\$80,000	
			Queensland Aids Council	Education Forum on sexual health	\$10,000
			Queensland Health	Development of chronic disease educational resources and training in the use of the resources	\$45,645
Torres Strait Regional Authority			Regional planning for Torres Strait	\$166,852	
Townsville		Townsville Aboriginal and Islander Health Service	Patient Information Systems	\$54,628	
QLD Total				\$4,875,350	
SA	Eyre	Tullawon Health Service Inc	Yalata Clinic – Well Babies and Diabetes rooms	\$200,000	
	Hills Mallee Southern	Hills Mallee Southern Regional Health Board	Community and organisation capacity building, development of MoU with Div of GP	\$25,000	
			PHCAP coordinator, admin support, mental health worker positions at Lower Murray Nungas Club; outreach services (diabetes, chronic disease, GP podiatry and physiotherapy session) to communities outside Murray Bridge	\$185,624	
			Refurbishment of physiotherapy area and office setup at Lower Murray Nungas Club	\$18,600	
	Mid North	Mid North Regional Health Service Inc	Services – 1 AHW, GP services, women's GP services, patient transport	\$71,792	
	North Metro	Nunkuwarrin Yunti Inc	Additional funds to upgrade Brady St clinic	\$60,000	
			Expansion of nursing services; community activities; driver salary for client transport to phc appointments	\$535,000	
			GP establishment costs at Gilles Plains (clinic facilities and medical equipment)	\$49,250	
Services – 1.4 GP; 3 AHW; child/youth			\$172,750		

		worker; coordinator	
Northern and Far Western	Umoona Tjutagku Health Service	Vehicle and storage shed	\$39,546

State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
SA cont'd	Port Augusta	Nganampa Health Council Inc	Nganampa – Clinical Services Manager	\$49,000
			Nganampa – Purchase of medical equipment (defibrillators)	\$57,091
			Staffing and operational costs – clinical services manager	\$33,315
		Pika Wiya Health Service Inc	Copley and Nepabunna Clinics	\$82,410
			Cultural mentors program	\$25,940
			PHCAP and care coordinator positions, and administrative support (salaries and on costs); additional costs associated with outreach services to Port Augusta, Northern region and Nunyara	\$203,042
			To undertake PHCAP planning in Port Augusta sub region	\$35,649
	Riverland	Riverland Health Authority	Cultural awareness training and community engagement	\$11,000
			Services – 0.5 GP; patient transport, care coordinator	\$57,263
			Services Development Manager	\$20,000
	South East	South East Aboriginal Partnership Inc	Services – service delivery manager, 0.5 GP, 2 AHW, patient transport	\$58,910
	Statewide	Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia	Enhanced Primary Care: MBS items access project	\$21,500
		OATSIH State Office	PHCAP implementation workshop	\$1,062
	Wakefield	Goreta Aboriginal Corporation	Goreta health clinic at Point Pearce	\$34,485
		Mid Murray Council	Construction of Swan Reach Clinic and associated project management fees	\$41,730
		Wakefield Regional Health Service Inc	Community and staff development activities	\$25,000
			Community capacity building initiatives; establishment of partnerships with phc service providers; AHW support network	\$33,000
			Furniture and equipment for coordinator position	\$12,000
			Health Services Coordinator positions (salaries); purchase of GP and allied health priority services	\$83,020
	SA Total			\$2,242,979
	TAS	Northern	Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre	Funding contribution for the purchase of 34 & 36 Frederick Street to allow the implementation of the Northern Region Child Health Project
Northern		Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre	Child Health Project in Northern Region – speech therapy, occupational therapy, disability services, psychological diagnostic services	\$17,500
Southern		Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services	Expand Child Health Nurse service in the Southern Region	\$9,000
TAS Total			\$186,500	
VIC	Barwon South West	Dhua Wurd Wurrung Elderly Citizens Association	GP accreditation	\$20,000
			Medical equipment and office furniture	\$60,000

		Services – 0.5 nurse, 2 AHW, GP sessions, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$80,750	
		Kirrae Health Service Inc	GP accreditation	\$20,000
			GP sessions and maternal and child groups	\$30,000

State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
Vic cont'd	Barwon SW cont'd	Kirrae Health Service Inc cont'd	Office furniture and PIRS	\$6,000
			service planning	\$10,000
			Services – AHW, maternal and child group activities, GP sessions, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$35,357
		Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative	GP accreditation	\$20,000
			Medical equipment, office furniture, PIRS	\$166,000
			Services – GP, nurse, 2 AHW, allied health, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$144,212
	Winda Mara Aboriginal Corporation	Upgrade existing facilities to allow phc service enhancement	\$60,000	
	Gippsland	Central Gippsland Aboriginal Health and Housing Co-op	Upgrade existing facilities to enable BTH and AHW service expansion	\$40,000
		Ramahayuck District Aboriginal Corporation	Minor capital upgrades to clinic	\$40,000
	Hume	Budja Budja Aboriginal Corporation	Minor upgrade to car park, fittings, furniture and equipment	\$90,000
		Mungabareena Aboriginal Cooperative	Duress alarm	\$15,000
			GP accreditation	\$20,000
			Patient transport vehicle	\$20,000
			Planning support to assist Business Manager to set up new operations	\$30,000
			Services – GP, medical receptionist, program coordinator, AHW, patient transport, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$69,950
		Rumbalara Aboriginal Corporation	Hearing equipment	\$36,000
		Services – 1.5 AHW, GP sessions (salaries and on-costs)	\$85,000	
	Loddon Mallee	Njernda Aboriginal Corporation	Upgrade existing facilities	\$34,783
	Metro Melbourne	Victorian Aboriginal Health Service Co-operative Ltd	Accreditation of VAHS	\$17,600
	Statewide	VACCHO	Development of a flexible learning material for AHW courses, and enhance VACCHO's education and training unit website	\$50,000
			GP accreditation	\$50,000
			Purchase of AHW kits	\$31,200
			To purchase GP sessions across a number of organisations (emphasis on Barwon SE)	\$300,000
VIC Total				\$1,581,852
WA	Bunbury	SWAMS	Trial costs	\$780,146
	Goldfields	Bega Gambirringu Health	Exercise equipment for patients	\$10,000

	Service		
	Ngangganawili Aboriginal Community Controlled Health	Clinic –Wiluna	\$172,000
	Ngunytyju Tjitji Pirni	Furniture and office equipment	\$4,000
		Purchase of medical equipment	\$3,500
Kimberley	Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service	Clinic refurbishment	\$153,000
	Dept of Health WA	Clinical equipment, IT infrastructure	\$372,396
		Clinics, staff housing	\$260,127

State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
WA cont'd	Kimberley cont'd		Primary health care services to West Kimberley and East Kimberley regions	\$63,321
		Derby Aboriginal Medical Service	Additional contract doctor	\$45,000
			Increasing awareness of Pap Smear program, use of PIRS for targeting and extending screening	\$29,000
			Patient Information Systems	\$21,000
			Set up office to continue delivery of Kimberley Eye Health Program and replace ageing equipment	\$109,930
		Jungarni-Jutiya Alcohol Action Council	Clinic refurbishment	\$60,693
		Jurrugk Aboriginal Health Service Aboriginal Corporation	Installation of satellite dish for remote area access to internet and e-mail	\$9,090
			Staff housing	\$22,727
			Staff housing refurbishment	\$36,363
		Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service Council Inc	Clinical equipment, IT infrastructure	\$351,342
			Clinics, staff housing	\$421,900
			Funding for regional conference	\$76,410
			West Kimberley and North east Kimberley 16 AHW, 5 RNs, 1.5 medical officers, 6.5 transport officers, cleaners, receptionists	\$483,312
		Mercy Community Services Inc	Nurse in Mulan, Billiluna, Men's health nurse, AHW, vehicle lease and operating costs	\$64,667
			Patient Information Systems	\$50,000
			Staff housing – nurse and AHW	\$590,000
		Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services	Clinic – Fitzroy Crossing	\$453,000
		Ord Valley Aboriginal Health Service	Patient Information Systems	\$19,150
			Refurbishment of 2 staff houses	\$45,930
			Renovation to overnight accommodation at Glen Hill	\$12,450
		Yura Yungi Medical Services Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic refurbishment	\$32,727
			Clinic renovation	\$162,730
Metro/South West		Derbarl Yerrigan (Funds Administrator)	Payment to Ernst & Young for management/administration of Derbarl Yerrigan	\$96,463
		Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Inc	Additional dental assistant hours	\$33,640
			Coord care trial operational costs	\$489,590

Additional Nurse educator position	\$19,000
Consultants review of the dental practice	\$10,000
Ear Health Medical Equipment	\$9,720
ECG machine for DYHS Mirrabooka site	\$3,760
Examination table for DYHS East Perth site	\$2,200
Install infrastructure for e-mail, internet, Communicare, broadband for electronic communication	\$11,000
Patient Information Systems	\$22,467
Purchase of counselling sessions with Indigenous Clinical Psychologist	\$24,400
Purchase of oral surgery hours	\$22,730

State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total	
WA cont'd	Metro/SW cont'd		Vaccine storage fridges for East Perth, Maddington and Mirrabooka clinics	\$8,360	
		Noongar Alcohol and Substance Abuse Service Inc	Patient Information Systems	\$23,340	
			Vehicle for Family Support/Case Management	\$22,519	
	Mid West	Carnarvon Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation		Corporate Governance Training	\$10,000
				Recruitment of CEO and Financial Controller/Business Manager	\$18,045
				Security fencing	\$11,650
		Geraldton Regional Aboriginal Medical Service		Clinic truck	\$145,031
				Patient Information Systems	\$96,500
				Purchase of blood centrifuge	\$3,479
			Mullewa Shire Council	Funding for travel and accommodation to raise awareness of health issues and services in the region and community	\$12,590
	Ngaanyatjarraku	Ngaanyatjarra Health Service Aboriginal Corporation		2 vehicles for AHWs	\$24,000
				Additional Specialist services	\$159,000
				Clinic – Kiwirrkurra	\$128,089
				Doctor's vehicle	\$51,120
			Medical Equipment	\$96,105	
			Storage and Office equipment	\$10,000	
			Training equipment	\$12,332	
Pilbara		Bloodwood Tree Association		Replace air conditioning, landscaping, water reticulation, fencing, car park	\$149,453
				Recruitment, computer and furniture	\$10,000
		Federation of Pilbara Aboriginal Health Services		Services – 3 AHW positions and a Medical Officer in the Ashburton Shire	\$58,850
				Staff vehicle and communications	\$55,000
			Development of policy and procedures for new clinic	\$20,000	
Mawankarra Health Service		Staff housing – installation of colour-bond fencing, cyclone strength windows	\$29,500		
Puntukurnu Aboriginal Medical Service		4 Welch Allyn Pro paq monitor for Jigalong, Punmu, Parnngurr and Kunawarrtji	\$64,560		
		Additional Specialist services to Parnngurr, Punmu, Kunawarrtji	\$20,000		
		Communications	\$4,400		

			Medical equipment – 4 Tympanometric instrument, 3 adult weighing scales, 3 three-sectional couch, 3 magnetel pregnancy birthing tool, 3 scoop stretchers	\$48,310
		Wirraka Maya Health Service	Patient Information Systems	\$73,401
			Support process of AGPAL Accreditation	\$39,190
	Wheatbelt	Wheatbelt Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic – Northam	\$10,452
WA Total				\$7,076,157
Total expenses				\$35,454,741

The total PHCAP funding for 2004-05 expended as at 1 December 2004 was \$9.1 million. Expenditure in 2004-05 by _temized_ on is set out in the table below.

2004-05 PHCAP year to date expenditure as at 1 December 2004					
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total	
ACT	ACT	Carers ACT	To employ an Indigenous _temized_ (salary and on-costs)	\$6,500	
ACT Total				\$6,500	
NSW	Central Coast	Yerin Aboriginal Health Service	Services – GP, nurse, medical receptionist, vehicle leasing (salaries and on-costs)	\$69,699	
	Greater Murray	Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service	Services – medical officer, medical receptionist, vehicle leasing, administration.	\$118,998	
	Mid Western	Wellington Aboriginal Corporation	Condobolin Aboriginal Medical Service	Services – AHW, patient transport, vehicle leasing	\$29,325
				For services and minor capital for Orange clinic – _temized budget to be finalised	\$83,750
				Staffing (GP, Nurse, program coordinator, medical receptionist, 2 AHW, administration), vehicle leasing and operational costs for Orange clinic	\$98,998
	New England	Pius X Aboriginal Corporation		For services and minor capital for Tamworth clinic – one-off supplementary funding	\$83,750
				Services – AHW, vehicle leasing for outreach service to Mungindi	\$25,500
				Staffing (GP, nurse, program coordinator, medical receptionist, 2 AHW, administration), vehicle leasing and operational costs for Tamworth clinic	\$98,998
	Northern Rivers	Dharah Gibinj Aboriginal Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation	Services – Medical Officer, AHW, program manager, vehicle leasing	\$136,848	
	Far West	Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation	Primary Health Care services associated with Coordinated Care Trial	\$364,068	
NSW Total				\$1,109,934	
NT	Darwin	Danila Dilba Health Service	1 Youth Psychologist, 2 Community Health Workers, operational costs and patient transport	\$226,458	
	Katherine East	Sunrise	Board capacity building and Ngukurr transfer/expansion of Coordinated Care Trial	\$317,501	

Katherine West	Katherine West Health Board	Patient Information Systems	\$117,300
		Services funding (including possible increase)	\$1,217,342
NT Wide	Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance NT (AMSANT)	PHCAP Aboriginal Medical Services and NT Alliance Officers	\$257,000
	St John Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc	First aid training (6 x 2-day Senior First Aid courses and 3 x 1-day Accident Action courses, including first aid kits for all participants) for remote communities in NT	\$45,000
	The Synod of the Dioceses of the NT Inc	Suicide Intervention Training	\$110,000
NT Total			\$2,290,601

2004-05 PHCAP year to date expenditure as at 1 December 2004				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
QLD	Atherton/Croydon	Wuchopperen Health Service	Outreach to Midin clinic - GP, p/t nurse, 2 AHW, coordinator, receptionist, patient transport	\$335,988
	Cairns	Wuchopperen Health Service	Patient transport	\$14,887
	Cook	Mookai Rosie-Bi-Bayan Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Accommodation and salaries for 2 house managers	\$42,472
Central Highlands		Bidgerdii Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Outreach services to Blackwater, Bluff, Dingo and Duaringa-Nurse, centre manager, administration, substance use worker, allied health and specialist services, patient transport	\$104,655
			Primary health care outpost at Biloela - senior AHW, administration, transport	\$26,837
			Services - 2 AHW to provide outreach services to Blackwater, Dingo and Bluff	\$47,955
Mount Isa		North and West Queensland Primary Health Care	Enhancement of existing primary health care services-nurse, 2 AHS, sexual health coordinator, outreach coordinator, administration, substance use worker, social worker, allied health and specialist services. GP, diabetes outreach	\$259,545
Near South West	Charleville and Western Areas Aboriginal Health		Outreach services to Roma-GP, nurse, clinic manager, AHW, substance use worker, allied health specialist services, p/t program coordinator, administration, PIRs, patient transport.	\$128,739
			Development of St George Clinic	\$105,373
	Goondir Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation		Outreach services to St George-GP, nurse, AHW, substance use worker, allied health and specialist services, p/t program coordinator, administration, Patient Information System, patient transport.	\$207,121
State-wide		Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Forum (QAIHF)	PHCAP policy officer, 2 PHCAP regional coordinators, administration, vehicle leasing - time limited funding	\$141,906

			provided to mid 2005-06	
		Royal Flying Doctor Service	2 RFDS Health Liaison Officers	\$76,500
		OATSIH Qld	PHCAP planning activities (including steering committee meetings and engagement of consultant to undertake development of a regional plan)	\$28,854
QLD Total				\$1,520,832
SA	East and West Metro	Nunkuwarrin Yunti Inc	Services - 1.4 GP; 3 AHW; child/youth workers; coordinator	\$352,410
	Hills Mallee Southern	Hills Mallee Southern Regional Health Board	PHCAP coordinator, admin support, mental health worker positions at Lower Murray Nungas Club; outreach services (diabetes, chronic disease, GP podiatry and physiotherapy session) to communities outside Murray Bridge	\$189,337
			Services - 1.5 AHW; GP, physio and podiatry sessions; patient transport	\$68,614

2004-05 PHCAP year to date expenditure as at 1 December 2004				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
SA Cont'd	Mid North	Mid North Regional Health Service Inc	Services – 1 AHW, GP Services, women's GP services, patient transport	\$115,856
	North Metro	Nunkuwarrin Yunti Inc	Brady St Clinic – expansion of services including 3 AHW, expanded nursing services; SEWB _temized_, patient transport	\$194,200
			Expansion of nursing services; community activities; driver salary for client transport to primary health care appointments	\$272,850
	Northern and Far Western	Nganampa Health Council Inc	Staffing and operational costs	\$80,000
		Pika Wiya Health Service Inc	PHCAP and care coordinator positions, and administrative support (salaries and on costs); additional costs associated with outreach services to Port Augusta, Northern region and Nunyara	\$172,585
			Services – 1 AHW; 2 part time AHW/care coordinators; patient transport	\$66,946
	Riverland	Riverland Health Authority	Cultural awareness training and community engagement	\$4,238
			Services – 0.5 GP; patient transport, care coordinator	\$98,940
	South East	South East Aboriginal Partnership Inc (Pangula Mannamurna Inc)	Services – service delivery manager, 0.5 GP, 2 AHW, patient transport	\$107,682
	State-wide	Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia	Enhanced Primary Care: MBS items access project	\$48,500
	Wakefield	Wakefield Regional Health Service Inc	Community and staff development activities	\$25,500
			Health Services Coordinator positions (salaries); purchase of GP and allied health priority services	\$84,680
Outreach to Copper Coast and Swan Reach – GP clinics and care			\$39,672	

			coordinators	
SA Total				\$1,922,009
VIC	Barwon South West	Dhua Wurd Wurrung Elderly Citizens Association	Services – 0.5 nurse, 2 AHW, GP sessions, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$77,265
		Kirrae Health Service Inc	Services – AHW, material and child group activities, GP sessions, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$72,128
		Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative	Services – GP, nurse, 2 AHW, allied health, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$133,326
	Hume	Mungabareena Aboriginal Cooperative	For leasing arrangement while new facility is built (actual funding amount to be _temized_) Funds for 2004-05 managed by the NSW Office	\$50,000
			For leasing of three patient transport vehicles (actual funding amount to be _temized_) Funds for 2004-05 managed by the NSW Office	\$50,000
			Services – GP, medical receptionist, program coordinator, AHW, patient transport, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$63,750

2004-05 PHCAP year to date expenditure as at 1 December 2004				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
Vic cont'd	Hume cont'd		Services – nurse, AHW, health manager, _temized_i, substance use workers, purchase of GP sessions. Funds for 2004-05 managed by the NSW Office	\$31,875
			To update plan and create MoU's with other _temized_ ions Funds for 2004-05 managed by the NSW Office	\$25,000
		Rumbalara Aboriginal Corporation	Services – 1.5 AHW, GP sessions (salaries and on-costs)	\$86,698
	Metro Melbourne	Yarra Valley Community Health Service	Metropolitan region population service mapping and strategic planning	\$25,000
	State-wide	Victorian Aboriginal Community Health Organisation (VACCHO)	Continuation of development of flexible learning material for AHW courses	\$90,000
VIC Total				\$705,042
WA	Bunbury	South West Aboriginal Medical Services Aboriginal Corporation (SWAMS)	Coordinated Care Trial Costs	\$195,936
	Kimberley	Mercy Community Services Inc	Nurse in Mulan, Billiluna, Men's health nurse, AHW, vehicle lease and operating costs	\$197,880
			Staff housing – nurse and AHW	\$531,000
	South West Metro	Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Inc	Coordinated Care Trial Operational Costs	\$249,690
	Pilbara	Federation of Pilbara Aboriginal Health Services	Establish 3 AHW positions, a Medical Officer in the Ashburton Shire	\$360,160
WA Total				\$1,534,666
Total				\$9,089,585

(b) To date, no PHCAP funding from the 2003-04 financial year has been re-phased to

the 2004-05 financial year as this is subject to appropriation. Re-phasing has been requested for a total of \$12.57 million to meet existing capital commitments in 2004-05. The table below shows the anticipated PHCAP expenditure in 2004-05 on existing capital projects. The rephased funds will be used to meet a substantial portion of the costs of these projects. The _temized is at the level of the appropriation, not site by site, however this table shows the 2004-05 commitments against which the _temized is sought.

Anticipated 2004-05 Expenditure on capital (as at 1 December 2004)				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
NSW	Far West	Bourke Aboriginal Health service	Clinic – Bourke	\$31,284
		Coomealla Health Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic – Dareton	\$941,130
		Orana Haven Drug and Alcohol Rehab.Service	Clinic – Brewarrina	\$504,000
		Roy Thorne Substance Misuse Rehabilitation Centre	Clinic – Moree	\$1,184,700
	Mid West	Wellington Aboriginal Corporation	For services and minor capital for Orange clinic – _temized budget to be finalised	\$335,000
	West Sydney	Marrin Weejali Drug & Alcohol Rehab. Service	Clinic – Emerton	\$763,875
NSW Total				\$3,759,989

Anticipated 2004-05 Expenditure on capital (as at 1 December 2004) cont'd				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
NT	Alice Springs	Central Australia Aboriginal Alcohol Program Unit	Substance Misuse Facility - Rogonesi Rd	\$573,650
	North East Arnhem	Laynhapuy Homelands Association Incorporated	Clinic - Nhulunbuy	\$1,567,500
		Marngarr Community Government Council	Clinic - Nhulunbuy	\$825,000
		Ramingining Homelands Resource Centre	Clinic - Winnelie	\$728,750
	South East Top End	Gulf Health Service Incorporated	Borroloola staff housing	\$51,793
		Mungoorbada Aboriginal Corporation	Robinson River 2b/r duplex	\$66,428
	Statewide	NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Health clinics	\$579,500
			Staff housing	\$1,010,500
	Tiwi	NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Nguiu - construction of clinic	\$188,534
		Mt Theo/ Yuendumu Substance Misuse Aboriginal Corporation	Minor clinic upgrade - Mt Theo	\$200,000
Clinic - Mt Theo				\$797,500
NT Total				\$6,589,155
QLD	Cairns	Mookai Rosie Bi-Nayan	Clinic - Earlville	\$286,000
	Ipswich and West Moreton	Kambu Medical Service Inc	Clinic - Ipswich	\$1,375,610
	Mt Isa	Yapatjarra Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Clinic construction (estimated costs)	\$1,000,000
	Near South West	Goondir Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Development of St George clinic	\$890,000

			Clinic - Dalby	\$1,385,550
	Torres Strait	Queensland Health	Bentinck Island clinic and staff accommodation (estimated costs)	\$774,440
QLD Total				\$5,711,600
SA	Port Augusta	Pika Wiya Health Service Inc	Copley and Nepabunna Clinics	\$332,590
	South East	South East Aboriginal Partnership Inc	Building renovations	\$350,000
	Wakefield	Goreta Aboriginal Corporation	Goreta health clinic at Point Pearce	\$310,365
		Mid Murray Council	Construction of Swan Reach Clinic and associated project management fees	\$321,030
SA Total				\$1,313,985
WA	Goldfields	Ngangganawili Aboriginal Community Controlled Health	Clinic - Wiluna	\$946,000
	Kimberley	Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service Council Inc	Clinics, staff housing	\$1,550,000
			Staff housing - nurse and AHW	\$590,000
		Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services	Clinic - Fitzroy Crossing	\$1,019,250
	Ngaanyatjarraku	Ngaanyatjarra Health Service Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic - Kiwirrkurra	\$704,489

Anticipated 2004-05 Expenditure on capital (as at 1 December 2004) cont'd				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
WA cont'd	Pilbara	Mawankarra Health Service	Purchase of staff accommodation - 115 Sholl Street - Roebourne and premises for Men's health 119 Sholl Street	\$90,000
	Wheatbelt	Wheatbelt Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic - Northam	\$94,548
WA Total				\$4,994,287
Total				\$22,369,016

- (c) The total PHCAP funds allocated nationally as at 1 December 2004 was \$55.3 million. The balance of PHCAP funds not yet allocated will be allocated in 2004-05 towards initiatives to improve access to primary health care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Provided below are details of the projects for which allocations have been made within each State and Territory for 2004-05.

2004-05 PHCAP allocations (as at 1 December 2004)				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
ACT	ACT	Carers ACT	Continued funding for Indigenous counsellor position (salary and on-costs)	\$26,000
ACT Total				\$26,000
NSW	Central Coast	Yerin Aboriginal Health Service	Services - GP, nurse, medical receptionist, vehicle leasing (salaries and on-costs)	\$278,797
	Far West	Bourke Aboriginal Health service	Clinic - Bourke	\$31,284

		Coomealla Health Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic - Dareton	\$941,130
		Orana Haven Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Service	Clinic - Brewarrina	\$504,000
		Roy Thorne Substance Misuse Rehabilitation Centre	Clinic - Moree	\$1,184,700
		Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation	PHC services associated with CCT	\$728,138
Greater Murray		Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service	Services - medical officer, medical receptionist, vehicle leasing, administration	\$237,997
		Riverina Medical and Dental Aboriginal Corporation	Services - 0.4 nurse, 0.4 AHW, vehicle leasing	\$71,737
Mid Western		Condobolin Aboriginal Medical Service	Services - AHW, patient transport, vehicle leasing	\$117,300
		Wellington Aboriginal Corporation	For services and minor capital for Orange clinic - itemised budget to be finalised	\$335,000
			Staffing (GP, nurse, program coordinator, medical receptionist, 2 AHW, administration), vehicle leasing and operational costs for Orange clinic	\$389,293
	New England	Pius X Aboriginal Corporation	For services and minor capital for Tamworth clinic - one-off supplementary funding	\$335,000
			Services - AHW, vehicle leasing for outreach service to Mungindi	\$102,000
			Staffing (GP, nurse, program coordinator, medical receptionist, 2 AHW, administration), vehicle leasing and operational costs for Tamworth clinic	\$389,293

2004-05 PHCAP allocations (as at 1 December 2004)				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
NSW cont'd	Northern Rivers	Bugalwena Service	Services - Health Worker, registered nurse and counsellor	\$257,834
		Dharah Gibinj Aboriginal Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation	Services - medical officer, AHW, program manager, vehicle leasing	\$273,697
	West Sydney	Marrin Weejali Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Service	Clinic - Emerton	\$763,875
NSW Total				\$6,941,074
NT	Alice Springs	Central Australia Aboriginal Alcohol Program Unit	Substance Misuse Facility - Rogonesi Rd	\$573,650
	Anmatjere	NT Dept of Health and Community Services	AHW, nurse, child and maternal health coordinator and part-time district medical officer and operational costs	\$577,480
			Nutritionist	\$125,015
			Registered nurse, Community health worker and administrative assistant and associated operational costs	\$305,574
	Central Australia	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc	Health Service Development Officers	\$221,459
	NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Health Service Development Officers	\$136,631	

Darwin	Danila Dilba Health Service	1 Youth Psychologist, 2 Community health workers, operational costs and patient transport	\$452,917
		Planning - Palmerston	\$20,000
Eastern Arrente-Alyawarra E. Arrente-Al. cont'd	NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Community health worker, administrative assistant and associated costs	\$128,315
		Nutritionist	\$125,015
		Part time AHW, District medical officer, midwife and associated operational costs	\$458,734
Katherine East	Sunrise	Board Capacity Building	\$200,000
		Ngukurr transfer/expansion	\$120,000
Katherine West	Katherine West Health Board	Patient Information Systems	\$234,600
		Services funding	\$2,900,460
		Governance support for ATSIH Boards in NT	\$90,000
Luritja-Pintubi	NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Aboriginal health worker salary and operational costs	\$82,972
		AHW, part time District medical officer and operational costs	\$261,075
		Nutritionist	\$125,015
North East Arnhem	Laynhapuy Homelands Association Incorporated	Clinic - Nhulunbuy	\$1,567,500
	Marrngarr Community Government Council	Clinic - Nhulunbuy	\$825,000
	Ramingining Homelands Resource Centre	Clinic - Winnelie	\$728,750
Northern Barkly	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc	Nurse, General practitioner, administrative assistant, patient transport and operational costs	\$131,275
	NT Dept of Health and Community Services	2 AHWs and operational costs	\$165,945
NT Wide	AMSANT	PHCAP AMSANT officers	\$257,000

2004-05 PHCAP allocations (as at 1 December 2004)				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
NT cont'd	NT wide cont'd	NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Specialist services	\$300,000
		NT Office	Central Australia service management support	\$50,000
			Central Australia governance training for service providers	\$200,000
		St John Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc	First Aid training	\$45,000
	The Synod of the Dioceses of the NT Inc	Suicide Intervention Training	\$110,000	
South East Top End	Gulf Health Service Incorporated	Mungoorbada Aboriginal Corporation	Borrooloola staff housing	\$51,793
		NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Robinson River 2b/r duplex	\$66,428
		NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Planning - SE Top End	\$20,000
Statewide	NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Health clinics	\$579,500	
		Staff housing	\$1,010,500	
Tiwi	NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Nguiu - construction of clinic	\$188,534	

			Patient Information Systems for Tiwi	\$302,312
		Tiwi Health Board	Services funding	\$826,351
	Walpiri	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc	Additional GP position and operational costs	\$266,160
			Nurse, General practitioner, 2 community health workers, administrative assistant, patient transport and operational costs	\$532,446
		Mt Theo/ Yuendumu Substance Misuse Aboriginal Corporation	Minor clinic upgrade - Mt Theo	\$200,000
			Clinic - Mt Theo	\$797,500
		NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Midwife, AHW and operational costs	\$260,231
NT Total				\$16,621,135
QLD	Atherton Croydon	Mamu Health Service	Feasibility Study - outreach services to Ravenshoe	\$400,000
		Wuchopperen Health Service	Outreach to Midin clinic - GP, p/t nurse, 3 AHW, coordinator, receptionist, patient transport	\$671,976
		Mulungu Aboriginal Corp Medical Centre	Regional planning for Atherton/Croydon	\$5,000
	Cairns	Mookai Rosie Bi-Nayan	Clinic - Earlville	\$286,000
		Wuchopperen Health Service	Patient transport	\$69,886
	Cape	Mookai Rosie-Bi-Bayan Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Accommodation and salaries for 2 house managers	\$113,553
	Central Highlands	Bidgerdii Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Outreach services to Blackwater, Bluff, Dingo and Duaranga - nurse, centre manager, administration, substance use worker, allied health and specialist services, patient transport	\$522,588
			Primary health care outpost at Biloela - senior AHW, administration, transport	\$107,269
			Services - 2 AHW to provide outreach services to Blackwater, Dingo and Bluff	\$191,821
		QLD OATSIH	Regional planning for Central Highlands	\$9,000

2004-05 PHCAP allocations (as at 1 December 2004)				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
Qld cont'd	Central H'nds cont'd	Woorabinda Aboriginal Council	Community health worker accommodation	\$603,900
			Services - 2 community health workers	\$143,644
			Vehicle Leasing	\$17,680
	Gulf	Karboyick Larkinjar Aboriginal Corporation	Regional planning for Gulf	\$305,000
	Ipswich and West Moreton	Kambu Medical Service Inc	Clinic - Ipswich	\$1,375,610
			Mt Isa	Yapatjarra Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation
	Enhancement of existing primary health care services - nurse, 2 AHW, sexual health coordinator, outreach coordinator, administration, substance use worker, social worker, allied health and specialist services	\$1,124,229		
	Services - GP, diabetes outreach	\$173,400		
	Mt Isa/Inland	QLD OATSIH	Regional planning for Mt Isa/Inland	\$9,000

	Near South West	Charleville and Western Areas Aboriginal Health	GP accommodation and redevelopment of Roma clinic to include GP consulting room	\$20,000
			Outreach services to Roma - GP, nurse, clinic manager, AHW, substance use worker, allied health specialist services, p/t program coordinator, administration, PIRS, patient transport	\$584,845
		Goondir Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Development of St George clinic	\$890,000
			Clinic - Dalby	\$1,385,550
			Outreach services to St George - GP, nurse, AHW, substance use worker, allied health and specialist services, p/t program coordinator, administration, PIRS, patient transport	\$674,937
	QLD OATSIH	Regional planning for Near South West	\$6,000	
Rockhampton	Bidgerdii Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Vehicle Leasing	\$13,597	
	Statewide	QAIHF	PHCAP policy officer, 2 PHCAP regional coordinators, administration, vehicle leasing - time limited funding provided to mid 2005-06	\$330,225
		Royal Flying Doctor Service	2 RFDS Health Liaison Officers	\$153,000
	Sunshine Coast and Cooloola	North Coast Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health	Lease of HiAce Commuter	\$46,090
	Torres Strait	Queensland Health	Bentinck Island clinic and staff accommodation (estimated costs)	\$774,440
Development of chronic disease educational resources and training in the use of the resources			\$39,240	
QLD Total				\$12,047,478
SA	Hills Mallee Southern	Hills Mallee Southern Regional Health Board	PHCAP coordinator, admin support, mental health worker positions at Lower Murray Nungas Club; outreach services (diabetes, chronic disease, GP podiatry and physiotherapy session) to communities outside Murray Bridge	\$378,673
			Services - 1.5 AHW; GP, physio and podiatry sessions; patient transport	\$137,228

2004-05 PHCAP allocations (as at 1 December 2004)				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
SA cont'd	Mid North	Mid North Regional Health Service Inc	Services - 1 AHW, GP services, women's GP services, patient transport	\$231,713
	North Metro	Nunkuwarrin Yunti Inc	Brady St Clinic - expansion of services including 3 AHW; expanded nursing services; SEWB counsellor, patient transport	\$388,400
			Expansion of nursing services; community activities; driver salary for client transport to phc appointments	\$545,700
			Services - 1.4 GP; 3 AHW; child/youth worker; coordinator	\$704,820
	Port Augusta	Nganampa Health Council Inc	Staffing and operational costs - clinical services manager	\$163,200
		Pika Wiya Health Service Inc	Copley and Nepabunna Clinics	\$332,590
			PHCAP and care coordinator positions, and administrative support (salaries and on costs);	\$414,206

			additional costs associated with outreach services to Port Augusta, Northern region and Nunyara	
			Services - 1 AHW; 2 part time AHW/care coordinators; patient transport	\$133,892
	Riverland	Riverland Health Authority	Cultural awareness training and community engagement	\$8,477
			Services - 0.5 GP; patient transport, care coordinator	\$197,880
	South East	South East Aboriginal Partnership Inc	Building renovations	\$350,000
			Services - service delivery manager, 0.5 GP, 2 AHW, patient transport	\$215,366
	Statewide	Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia	Enhanced Primary Care: MBS items access project	\$97,000
	Wakefield	Goreta Aboriginal Corporation	Goreta health clinic at Point Pearce	\$310,365
		Mid Murray Council	Construction of Swan Reach Clinic and associated project management fees	\$321,030
		Wakefield Regional Health Service Inc	Community and staff development activities	\$51,000
			Health Services Coordinator positions (salaries); purchase of GP and allied health priority services	\$169,361
	Wakefield cont'd		Outreach to Copper Coast and Swan Reach- GP clinics and care coordinators	\$79,343
SA Total				\$5,230,244
TAS	Northern	Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre	Child Health Project in Northern Region - speech therapy, occupational therapy, disability services, psychological diagnostic services	\$428,400
	Southern	Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services	Expand Child Health Nurse service in the Southern Region	\$36,312
TAS Total				\$464,712
VIC	Barwon South West	Dhua Wurd Wurrung Elderly Citizens Association	Feasibility study to determine need for additional buildings for service provision	\$25,000
			Services - 0.5 nurse, 2 AHW, GP sessions, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$309,060
		Kirrae Health Service Inc	Services - AHW, maternal and child group activities, GP sessions, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$144,259
		Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative	Services - GP, nurse, 2 AHW, allied health, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$533,307

2004-05 PHCAP allocations (as at 1 December 2004)				
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total
Vic cont'd	Hume	Mungabareena Aboriginal Cooperative	Services - GP, medical receptionist, program coordinator, AHW, patient transport, administration (salaries and on-costs)	\$255,000
			For lease while new facility is built	\$50,000
			For leasing of three patient transport vehicles	\$50,000
			Services - nurse, AHW, health manager, counsellors, substance use workers, purchase of GP sessions	\$127,500
			To update plan and create MoU's with other organisations	\$25,000
		Rumbalara Aboriginal Corporation	Services - 1.5 AHW, GP sessions (salaries and on-costs)	\$173,400

		Budja Budja Aboriginal Corporation	Minor upgrade to car park, fittings, furniture and equipment	\$5,000
Metropolitan Melbourne		Victorian Aboriginal Health Service Co-operative Ltd	Continuation of accreditation of VAHS	\$10,000
		Yarra Valley Community Health Service	Metropolitan region population service mapping and strategic planning	\$20,000
			Metropolitan region population service mapping and strategic planning	\$20,000
Statewide	VACCHO		Continuation of development of flexible learning material for AHW courses	\$90,000
			GP accreditation	\$50,000
			To purchase GP sessions across a number of organisations (emphasis on Barwon SE)	\$406,980
VIC Total				\$2,294,506
WA	Bunbury	SWAMS	Trial costs	\$900,330
	Goldfields	Ngangganawili Aboriginal Community Controlled Health	Clinic - Wiluna	\$946,000
	Kimberley	Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service Council Inc	Clinical equipment, IT infrastructure	\$502,950
			Clinics, staff housing	\$1,550,000
			Vehicles	\$710,000
			West Kimberley and North east Kimberley 16 AHW, 5 RNs, 1.5 medical officers, 6.5 transport officers, cleaners, receptionists	\$3,345,396
		Mercy Community Services Inc	Nurse in Mulan, Billiluna, Men's health nurse, AHW, vehicle lease and operating costs	\$395,760
			Staff housing - nurse and AHW	\$590,000
			Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services	Clinic - Fitzroy Crossing
	Metro/South West	Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Inc	CCT operational costs	\$499,382
	Ngaanyatjarraku	Ngaanyatjarra Health Service Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic - Kiwirrkurra	\$704,489
Pilbara	Federation of Pilbara Aboriginal Health Srv.	Services - 3 AHW positions and a Medical Officer in the Ashburton Shire	\$360,160	
	Mawankarra Health Service	Purchase of staff accommodation - 115 Sholl Street - Roebourne and premises for Men's health 119 Sholl Street	\$90,000	
Wheatbelt	Wheatbelt Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic - Northam	\$94,548	
WA Total				\$11,708,264
Total				\$55,333,413

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-029

OUTCOME 7: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

Topic: PHCAP SITES

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

How many PHCAP sites have been rolled out to date?

- Please include number of OATSIH Planning Regions and the number of Planning Regions for which some PHCAP funding has been approved by state/territory as in answer to question E04-200 (d) Budget Estimates 2004.

Answer:

As at 30 November 2004, funding under the PHCAP program, including for additional service provision and/or enhanced facilities, has been approved in localities within 61 OATSIH planning regions. Distribution of the OATSIH planning regions receiving PHCAP funding by jurisdiction is provided in the table following:

State	Number of OATSIH Planning Regions*	Number of OATSIH Planning Regions for which some PHCAP Funding has been approved**
Queensland	39	17
Northern Territory	21	12
New South Wales	17	9
Western Australia	12	7
South Australia	8	8
Victoria	6	5
Tasmania	3	2
ACT	1	1
Total	107	61

* An OATSIH planning region is a term used across the OATSIH program to identify specific geographic areas within each jurisdiction.

** Statewide initiatives have also been approved in Queensland, Northern Territory, Victoria and South Australia.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-030

OUTCOME 7: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

Topic: PHCAP FUNDING EXPENDED ON CAPITAL PROJECTS

Written Question on Notice

Senator McLucas asked:

- (a) What was the total amount of PHCAP funding expended in 2003-04 on capital projects?
- (b) What percentage is this of the total PHCAP allocation for 2003-04? Please list the 40 capital works and their associated cost by location.
- (c) How many capital works (increase or upgrade) projects are planned for 2004-05?
- (d) Which capital works projects have been completed to date?
- (e) What is the associated cost for each capital works project listed by location?

Answer:

- (a) The total amount of PHCAP funding expended in 2003-04 on capital projects managed through the Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health capital works program was \$13,177,207. Some additional minor works were funded directly. Details of these are included in the table of overall 2003-04 expenditure under the PHCAP program in answer E04000028.
- (b) Expenditure through the capital program as set out below accounted for 28% of the total PHCAP administered allocation for 2003-04. Details of the 2003-04 expenditure through the capital program are provided in the table below, including the locations of the 64 projects.

**2003-04 PHCAP
Capital Expenditure**

State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total	
ACT	ACT	Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Clinic	Minor capital works at Narrabundah Health Centre	Not Complete	\$150,000
ACT Total					\$150,000
NSW	Far West	Bourke Aboriginal Health service	Clinic - Bourke	Complete	\$313,716
		Coomealla Health Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic - Dareton	Not Complete	\$342,230
State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Total	
NSW Cont.	Far West – Cont.	Orana Haven Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Service	Clinic - Brewarrina	Not Complete	\$224,000
		Roy Thorne Substance Misuse Rehabilitation Centre	Substance Misuse Facility - Moree	Not Complete	\$215,400
		Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service	Upgrade staff housing	Complete	\$22,095
	West Sydney	Marrin Weejali Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Service	Substance Misuse Facility - Emerton	Not Complete	\$339,500
NSW Total					\$1,456,941
NT	Alice Springs	Central Australia Aboriginal Alcohol Program Unit	Substance Misuse Facility - Ragonesi Rd	Not Complete	\$104,300
	Katherine East	Wurli Wurlinjang Health Service	Capital - Purchase ESWB building	Complete	\$260,000
		Kalano Community Association Inc	Substance Misuse Facility - Venn Block 30 km SW Katherine	Complete	\$655,000
	North East Arnhem	Laynhapuy Homelands Association Incorporated	Clinic and Housing - Nhulunbuy	Not Complete	\$285,000
		Marn Garr Community Government Council	Clinic - Nhulunbuy	Not Complete	\$150,000
		Ramingining Homelands Resource Centre	Clinic - Winnellie	Not Complete	\$132,500
	South East Top End	Gulf Health Service Incorporated	Borrooloola staff housing	Not Complete	\$984,064
			Refurbish GP housing		\$115,000
		Mungoorbada Aboriginal Corporation	Robinson River 2b/r duplex	Not Complete	\$1,262,136
	Tiwi	Aboriginal and Islander Alcohol Awareness and Family Recovery Inc (Pirlangimpi)	Clinic - Pirlangimpi, Melville Island	Complete	\$55,125
			NT Dept of Health and Community Services	Nguiu - construction of clinic	Complete
Walpiri	Mt Theo/Yuendumu Substance Misuse Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic- Mt Theo	Not Complete	\$145,000	
West Arnhem	Djabulugku Association Inc	Staff housing purchase in Jabiru	Complete	\$214,355	
NT Total					\$5,510,716

QLD	Cape	Apunipima Cape York	Upgrade of office to comply with building code regulations	Complete	\$51,000
	Ipswich and West Moreton	Kambu Medical Service Inc	Clinic - Ipswich	Not Complete	\$611,382
	Mt Isa	Yapatjarra Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Land purchase for extension of clinic, feasibility study and upgrade of existing premises	Not Complete	\$170,000
	Near South West	Goondir Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Clinic - Dalby	Not Complete	\$615,800
		Goondir Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Clinic – St.George	Not Complete	\$100,000
		Charleville and Western Areas Aboriginal Health	GP accommodation and redevelopment of Roma clinic to include GP consulting room	Complete	\$400,000
	Central Highlands	Woorabinda Aboriginal Council	Community health worker accommodation	Complete	\$67,100
	Northern Barkley	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Inc	Minor Capital	Complete	\$20,000
	Mt Isa	Yapatjarra ATSI Corporation	Land purchase for extension of clinic and feasibility study	Complete	\$130,000
			Upgrade to existing premises	Complete	\$40,000
	Statewide	QAIHF	Relocation and refurbishment of QAIHF offices 24 Logan Road Wooloongabba	Complete	\$38,673
	Sunshine Coast and Cooloola	North Coast Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health	Minor capital upgrades to clinic	Complete	\$3,500
	Toowoomba	Goolburri Aboriginal Health Advancement Corporation	Minor capital upgrades to clinic	Complete	\$63,000
	Torres Strait	Northern Peninsula Area Womens Shelter ATSI	Upgrade staff housing to meet safety codes	Complete	\$80,000
	Hitchenbrook	Ferdy's Haven	Minor capital upgrades to clinic	Complete	\$45,000
QLD Total					\$2,435,455

State	Region	Organisation	Project Description	Status	Total
SA	Eyre	Tullawon Health Service Inc	Yalata Clinic - Well Babies and Diabetes rooms	Not Complete	\$200,000
	North Metro	Nunkuwarrin Yunti Inc	Additional funds to upgrade Brady St clinic	Complete	\$60,000
	Port Augusta	Pika Wiya Health Service Inc	Copley and Nepabunna Clinics	Not Complete	\$82,410
	Wakefield	Mid Murray Council	Construction of Swan Reach Clinic & associated project management fees	Not Complete	\$41,730
	Wakefield	Goreta Aboriginal Corporation	Capital Works – renovation of existing building	Not Complete	\$34,485
	Northern and Far Western	Umoona Tjutagku Health Service	Vehicle and storage shed	Complete	\$39,546
SA Total					\$458,171
TAS	Northern	Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre	Funding contribution for the purchase of 34 & 36 Frederick Street to allow the implementation of the Northern Region Child Health Project	Complete	\$160,000
TAS Total					\$160,000
VIC	Barwon South West	Winda Mara Aboriginal Corporation	Upgrade existing facilities to allow phc service enhancement	Complete	\$60,000
	Gippsland	Central Gippsland Aboriginal Health and Housing Co-op	Upgrade existing facilities to enable BTH and AHW service expansion	Complete	\$40,000
		Ramahayuck District Aboriginal Corporation	Minor capital upgrades to clinic	Complete	\$40,000
	Loddon Mallee	Njernda Aboriginal Corporation	Upgrade existing facilities	Complete	\$34,783
	Hume	Budja Budja Aboriginal Corporation	Minor upgrade to car park, fittings furniture and equipment	complete	\$90,000
VIC Total					\$264,783
WA	Goldfields	Ngangganawili Aboriginal Community Controlled Health	Clinic - Wiluna	Not Complete	\$172,000
	Kimberley	Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service	Clinic refurbishment	Complete	\$153,000
		Dept of Health Western Australia	Clinics, staff housing	Complete	\$260,127
		Jungarni-Jutiya Alcohol Action Council	Clinic refurbishment	Complete	\$60,693
		Jurrugk Aboriginal Health Service Aboriginal Corporation	Staff housing	Complete	\$22,727
			Staff housing refurbishment	Complete	\$36,363
		Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service Council Inc	Clinics, staff housing	Complete	\$421,900
		Mercy Community Services Inc	Staff housing – nurse and AHW	Complete	\$590,000
		Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services	Clinic - Fitzroy Crossing	Not Complete	\$453,000
Ord Valley Aboriginal Health Service	Refurbishment of 2 staff houses	Complete	\$45,930		

			Renovation to overnight accommodation at Glen Hill	Complete	\$12,450
		Yura Yungi Medical Services Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic refurbishment	Complete	\$32,727
			Clinic renovation	Complete	\$162,730
	Ngaanyatjarra	Ngaanyatjarra Health Service Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic - Kiwirrkurra	Not Complete	\$128,089
	Pilbara	Bloodwood Tree Association	Replace air conditioning, landscaping, water reticulation, fencing, car park	Complete	\$149,453
		Mawarnkarra Health Service	Staff housing – installation of colour-bond fencing, cyclone strength windows	Not Complete	\$29,500
WA Cont.	Wheatbelt	Wheatbelt Aboriginal Corporation	Clinic – Northam	Not Complete	\$10,452
WA Total					\$2,741,141
Total					\$13,177,207

- (c) Plans for possible additional capital projects in 2004-05 are in development however they are still draft, and have not yet been approved. This follows some necessary delays due to the caretaker period, including consequential delays in consideration of additional estimates that affect the availability of funds to meet capital commitments. The re-tendering of a contract for management of the capital program has also affected finalisation of capital planning for 2004-05.
- (d) Those capital projects managed through the capital works program for which expenditure was incurred in 2003-04 and which have been completed are identified as such in a column of the table provided in part (b) above.
- (e) Details of 2003-04 expenditure on capital projects managed through the capital works program are provided in the table provided in part (b). As noted in part (a) some additional minor works were funded directly. Details of these are included in the table of overall 2003-04 expenditure under the PHCAP program in the answer to question E04000028.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-008

OUTCOME 8: Choice Through Private Health

Topic: PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE REBATE - EVALUATION

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

Has the Government undertaken any evaluation of the Private Health Insurance Rebate since its introduction? If not, why not? If so, please provide details.

Answer:

Yes. In May 2002, the Auditor General tabled in Parliament a report on the performance audit of the 30% Private Health Insurance Rebate conducted by the Australian National Audit Office.

The report can be found at:

www.anao.gov.au/website.nsf/publications/4A256AE90015F69BCA256BAC0006DF7C

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-009

OUTCOME 8: Choice Through Private Health

Topic: INCREASE IN PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

- (a) What assumptions have been made about the annual percentage increase in private health insurance premiums in calculating the cost of increasing the rebate to 35% for people aged 65-69 years, and to 40% for people aged 70 years and over?
- (b) Has the Government estimated the cost to the Budget of this measure, beyond the next four years? If so, what are the figures?
- (c) What is the anticipated impact on private health insurance membership arising from increasing the rebate for these age groups?

Answer:

- (a) The government does not release its assumptions about annual percentage increases in private health insurance premiums. If this information was available to the funds it may affect the magnitude of the premium rises that they apply for each year.

The net effect on participation rates of the increased rebate for older Australians will be relatively minor. The higher rebates are expected to encourage people aged 65 and over to retain their cover and the number who retain cover is estimated to be about 10,000 over 5 years. As the anticipated increase in coverage as a proportion of the total number of people with private health insurance is small, the net effect on health fund outlays is assumed not to be significant. Therefore there is expected to be little or no flow on pressure to premiums.

- (b) No.
- (c) Increasing the rebate will lead to the greater stability of private health cover for older people. The number of 65+ people who retain cover is estimated to be 10,000 over 5 years. At 30 June 2004 there were over 1 million people aged 65+ who had private health insurance cover and a total of over 8.6 million Australians had cover. The retention of older Australians is expected to increase the participation rate by 0.11% over 5 years.- effectively remaining stable.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-010

OUTCOME 8: Choice Through Private Health

Topic: INCREASE TO THE PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE REBATE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Nettle asked:

- (a) In October 2003, the Government rejected a recommendation from Government Senators on the Select Committee on Medicare to increase the private health insurance rebate to 40%. Why has the Government now decided to increase the rebate for some age groups?
- (b) Does the Government intend to increase the rebate for other groups? What would be the cost of increasing the rebate to 40% for all private health insurance policy holders?

Answer:

- (a) The rebate was increased to ensure that private health insurance premiums remain affordable for older Australians. Many older Australians have contributed to private health insurance for most of their lives. They have contributed in their younger years when they enjoyed good health. Now in their older years when they need private health cover the most, it is important that private health cover remain accessible to them. This is particularly important for those on fixed and low to moderate retirement incomes.
- (b) On a pro rata basis, increasing the private health insurance rebate to 40% for all private health insurance policy holders is estimated to cost about \$850 million a year, based on current costs. The government has no plans to increase the rebate from 30% for contributors under the age of 65 years.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-048

OUTCOME 9: Health Investment

Topic: PARENTAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION HELD BY HIC

Written Question on Notice

Senator Allison asked:

- a) Given that there was extensive condemnation of the government's budget proposal to allow parental access to HIC data on children aged under 16 years, what plans does the department have to develop systems for allowing parental access to HIC data? What progress has been made on implementing these plans?
- b) If the department has no plans to pursue this, what is the department using the \$3.9 million allocated to this initiative for?

Answer:

- a) At this time, there are no plans to make any changes to existing policy arrangements covering the provision of parental access to information held by the HIC.
- b) Funds allocated to this initiative have not been expended at this stage.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-031

OUTCOME 9: Health Investment

Topic: LICENSING COMMITTEE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

In question E04-103, I requested a copy of a legal opinion. Why has that opinion not been provided? Please provide a copy of the opinion.

Answer:

The substance of the legal opinion was provided in the response to question E04-103. The question of release of advice such as this is considered on a case-by-case basis. In the present case, as there is no public interest immunity issue in not providing it, the entire advice is now released to you:

The Commonwealth *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* has made provision for the use of select extrinsic material in the interpretation of Commonwealth legislation. The relevant section of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* (Cth) is section 15AB [Use of extrinsic material in the interpretation of an Act].

s15AB(1) is set out as follows:

S15AB(1) Use of extrinsic material in the interpretation of an Act.

- (1) Subject to subsection (3), in the interpretation of a provision of an Act, if any material not forming part of the Act is capable of assisting in the ascertainment of the meaning of the provision, consideration may be given to that material:
 - (a) to confirm that the meaning of the provision is the ordinary meaning conveyed by the text of the provision taking into account its context in the Act and the purpose or object underlying the Act; or
 - (b) to determine the meaning of the provision when:
 - (i) the provision is ambiguous or obscure; or
 - (ii) the ordinary meaning conveyed by the text of the provision taking into account its context in the Act and the purpose or object underlying the Act leads to a result that is manifestly absurd or is unreasonable.

Section 15AB(2)(e) provides the material that can be used to interpret a provision of an Act includes any explanatory memorandum relating to the Bill containing the provision that was laid before Parliament by a Minister before the provision was enacted.

Generally, the explanatory memorandum may be used to confirm the ordinary meaning of the provision taking into account its context in the Act and the underlying purpose or object. In other words extrinsic aids such as the explanatory memorandum of an Act may be taken into account even where the provision is "clear on its face" however if the provision under consideration is clear on its face, extrinsic materials may only be used to confirm the literal meaning. Extrinsic materials may be referred to, but they cannot alter the interpretation that the court, without reference to those materials, would place upon the provision.

In order that a reference to extrinsic materials may have the potential to change an interpretation of legislation which would otherwise have been arrived at, it is necessary for a court to conclude (without taking account of any material not forming part of the Act) that the provision in question is "ambiguous" or "obscure" or that, taking into account its context and underlying purpose or object, the ordinary meaning leads to a result that is "manifestly absurd" or "unreasonable".

Please note that underlying the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* (Cth) there are common law approaches that have been developed in using extrinsic material such as explanatory memorandum in interpreting legislation. The recent development in regards to the common law approaches bring the use of such extrinsic material closer to the limitations established by legislation (see *Brennan v Comcare* (1994) 50 FCR 555 at 573).

Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002

Section 10(1) of the *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002* provides that it is an offence if a person intentionally uses and excess ART embryo unless the use by the person is authorised by a licence; or the use by the person is an exempt use within the meaning of subsection Sub-section 10(2) enumerates the "exempt uses".

Section 20(1) of the *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002* provides that a person may apply to the NHMRC Licensing Committee for a licence authorising use of excess ART embryos.

The *Research Involving Embryos Bill 2002 Revised Explanatory Memorandum* under clause 10 [Offence - use of excess ART embryo] describes the scope of the regulatory scheme for excess ART embryos and provides in summary that the clause provides that all uses of excess ART embryos are required to be licensed by the NHMRC Licensing Committee unless the use is an exempt use in accordance with sub-clause 10(2) of the Bill. In regards to sub-clause 10(2) the explanatory memorandum enumerates the various "exempt uses " and further provides that "All other uses of an excess ART embryo [*those not enumerated under sub-clause 10(2)*] are required to be licensed by the NHMRC Licensing Committee. This include, for example, using excess ART embryos: for research (for example to derive stem cells or to improve ART clinical practices); to train people in ART techniques; for Quality Assurance testing to ensure that pre-implantation diagnostic tests give accurate results and to examine the effectiveness of new culture media".

I understand that a number of members of the NHMRC Licensing Committee have stated that the Licensing Committee should not issue a licence for training technicians. One member has stated that "they don't believe that it was the intention of government that training be included".

The additional information that is contained in the Research Involving Embryos Bill 2002 Revised Explanatory Memorandum explaining the scope of the regulatory scheme for excess ART embryos supports the interpretation of the clause 20(1) of the *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002* that the use of the term "uses" in clause 20 (1) ie that "a person may apply to the NHMRC Licensing Committee for a licence authorising **use** of excess ART embryos", includes the literal meaning of "uses" which is wide enough to encompass training of people in ART techniques. In this instance the explanatory memorandum is being used to confirm the literal meaning of section 20(1) of the *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002*.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005,

Question: E04-032

OUTCOME 9: Health Investment

Topic: MINISTER'S INVOLVEMENT ON HUMAN CLONING ISSUES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

- (a) In answer to question E04-113 the Department referred to a letter from the Prime Minister dated 19 September 2003. Please provide a copy of that letter.
- (b) Which Ministers other than the Prime Minister were involved in formulating Australia's position at the United Nations? How were they involved?
- (c) In answer to question E04-113 you state that Minister Andrews was advised of the Australian Government's position by letter from the Prime Minister dated 19 September 2003, just over ten days before Professor Pettigrew addressed the United Nations on 30 September. But Professor Pettigrew had also addressed the UN on 23 September 2002 to put Australia's position. How was the Minister for Ageing consulted before 23 September 2002 on the Government's position?

Answer:

- (a) This request has been referred to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet as the originator of the letter.
- (b) The NHMRC did not coordinate the formulation of the Australian Government position.
- (c) Advice was referred to Minister Andrews on 2 September 2002.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-033

OUTCOME 9: Health Investment

Topic: REVIEW OF RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMAN EMBRYOS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

Please provide details on the progress of the review of the Research Involving Human Embryos Act. Who is on the review committee? What work has been done so far?

Answer:

The Australian Government is consulting with state and territory governments on the composition of the Review Committee. The review will be established as soon as possible after 19 December 2004.

The Minister for Ageing, the Hon Julie Bishop MP has not yet appointed the persons to undertake the review.

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2004-2005, November 2004

Question: E04-034

OUTCOME 9: Health Investment

Topic: REVIEW OF PROHIBITION OF HUMAN CLONING ACT

Written Question on Notice

Senator Harradine asked:

Please provide details on the progress of the review of the Prohibition of Human Cloning Act. Who is on the review committee? What work has been done so far?

Answer:

The Australian Government is consulting with state and territory governments on the composition of the Review Committee. The review will be established as soon as possible after 19 December 2004.

The Minister for Ageing, the Hon Julie Bishop MP has not yet appointed the persons to undertake the review.