

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2010-2011, 23 February 2011

Question: E11-071

OUTCOME 10: Health System Capacity and Quality

Topic: NATIONAL eHEALTH TRANSITION AUTHORITY (NEHTA)

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

I was also wondering how NEHTA sees openly and collaboratively when its executive refuse to appear before the public estimates hearings and uses its incorporated status to avoid answering most questions put to it especially questions that seek information about NEHTA's spending of tax payers nee consumers money?

Answer:

The CEO of NEHTA has appeared before Senate Committee hearings when invited. Most recently, NEHTA's CEO and Clinical Lead appeared before the Senate Community Affairs Committee in 2010 in relation to the Healthcare Identifiers Service.

As a company limited by guarantee, NEHTA does not appear before Senate Budget Estimates Committee hearings. However, as a member of the NEHTA Board, Secretary of the Department of Health and Ageing Ms Jane Halton provides information about the NEHTA work program to the Senate Budget Estimates Committee. NEHTA complies with its obligations under the *Corporations Act 2001* as it has done so since it was established in 2005.