

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2010-11, 23 February 2011

Question: E11-110

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: NATIONAL FUNDING POOL

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) Who was responsible for the decision to introduce the national funding pool?
In relation to this, please specify:
- b) Was this at the suggestion of the Health Minister or Department?
- c) When was the decision made?
- d) If the decision was made by the Health Minister or Department, when were other Ministers and their departments advised?
- e) Which Ministers and Departments were advised?
- f) When were they advised?

Answer:

a – f)

COAG was responsible for the decision to introduce the national funding pool on 13 February 2011. The Prime Minister first publicly raised the national funding pool on 11 February 2011 as one of the proposed reforms for COAG's consideration (see media release: 'A better deal for patients').