

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2010-11, 23 February 2011

Question: E11-176

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: MENTAL HEALTH

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) Given the acknowledged weakness of the DRG system in relation to mental health, what process will be used to determine the 'efficient price' of hospital-based mental health services under the new COAG funding arrangements?
- b) How much will be paid per service type, for metro and non-metro hospitals?

Answer:

a and b)

The national efficient price for mental health services provided by public hospital will be determined by the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority. This will ensure that hospital-based mental health services are included in the guaranteed funding for efficient growth to be provided by the Commonwealth.