

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: AAC - Ageing and Aged Care

Question No: 534

Topic: Pricing Assessor Manual

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Polley asked:

Assessors are required to consider median house prices suburb by suburb, bond levels by locality and historical bond levels for existing facilities and application price. There is no mention of assessors being required to consider "other" circumstances. Can the Aged Care Pricing Commissioner outline how providers can argue special circumstances to support the price application?

Answer:

In addition to the factors that the Aged Care Pricing Commissioner is required to consider in the *Fees and Payments Principles 2014*, aged care providers are invited to include in applications for accommodation prices above the maximum amount determined by the Minister their considerations supporting the proposed price. The Commissioner is not prescriptive in this respect. Where applicants provide evidence of any particular circumstance supporting their proposed price, assessors will consider this circumstance in making a recommendation to the Commissioner.