

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

**Outcome Number:** 8

**Question No:** 582

**Topic:** Pricing Commissioner role

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Polley** asked:

Please outline precisely what the role of the Aged Care Pricing Commissioner is? Is it more than the regulator of prices?

**Answer:**

The Aged Care Pricing Commissioner's (ACPC) statutory role is purely regulatory.

As detailed in Section 95B-1 of the *Aged Care Act 1997*, the functions of the ACPC are:

- a) To approve extra service fees in accordance with Division 35;
- b) In accordance with section 52G-4, to approve accommodation payments that are higher than the maximum amount of accommodation payment determine by the Minister under section 52G-3;
- c) Such other functions that are conferred on the Aged Care Pricing Commissioner by this Act;
- d) The functions that are conferred on the Aged Care Pricing Commissioner by any other law of the Commonwealth;
- e) The functions that are specified by the Minister by legislative instrument.

Since the enactment of Section 95B-1 of the *Aged Care Act 1997* by the previous government in August 2013, no other functions have been conferred on the Aged Care Pricing Commission by the Minister or under Commonwealth law.

The ACPC does, however, sit as a government representative on the Aged Care Financing Authority.