

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-514

OUTCOME 2: Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: DEFERRAL OF LISTINGS

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Senator Coonan asked:

What is the level of savings that this policy change will deliver for the deferrals announced to date over the forward estimates?

Answer:

The specific costs of measures considered by the Cabinet, including potential Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme listings are Cabinet in Confidence.

As included in the Department of Health and Ageing's submission to the Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee Inquiry into the Government's administration of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) (page 16) and previously publicly advised the total cost of the PBS medicines deferred is over \$100 million.