

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-224

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: CUTS TO THE BETTER ACCESS PROGRAM

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Did this expert working group make the decision to cut the Better Access program
(Refer page 49 Hansard 30 May.)

Answer:

As stated by the Department's Secretary Ms Jane Halton AM, on 30 May 2011
(Hansard, CA 49), the Mental Health Expert Working Group did not make any decisions
about changes to the Better Access initiative.

Decisions regarding the 2011-12 Budget Mental Health Reform package were a matter for
the Government.