

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 17 & 19 October 2012

Question: E12-189

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: ELECTRICITY

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator McKenzie

Question:

- a) For the financial year 2011-2012, how many kilowatt hours of electricity did the department consume? What was the cost?
- b) What does this cost work out to per employee?
- c) What increases in electricity costs has the Department experienced since the introduction of the carbon tax?
- d) In reference to QoN E12-097, the Department will manage increases in electricity costs from within existing Departmental appropriations. What programs or services have been cut to meet the increased costs?
- e) What measures is the Department taking to reduce its electricity expenditure? When did these commence? What impact have they had?

Answer:

- a) During 2011-12 the Department of Health and Ageing consumed 12,090,372.29 kilowatt hours of electricity at a cost of \$1,835,707.
- b) The cost of electricity for 2011-12 was \$360.50 per employee.
- c) Due to the differing billing cycles of electricity suppliers, there is inadequate data to provide a conclusive assessment at this point in time.
- d) There have not been any cuts to programs or services.
- e) In late 2011-12 the Department commenced progressively moving sites in the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales onto the Whole of Government electricity contract. This ensures that the Department receives a lower tariff rate over the entire contract term.