

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2014 - 2015

Department/Agency: RAM

Question: SBT3739-3740

Topic: Non-conventional therapies

Reference: written - 30 October 2014

Senator: Ludwig, Joe

Question:

Since 7 September 2013:

3739. Are non-conventional therapies, for staff or ministerial use, able to be provided by the department/agency? (Including, but not limited to: Music Therapy, Hypnosis, Acupuncture, Chiropractic, Homeopathy, Naturopathy, etc) If yes:
- a) What is the process by which these therapies can be approved?
 - b) Who are they available to?
 - c) Please detail the reasons the therapies able to be provided (e.g. Work Place Agreement, recommended by a report to the department, etc)?
3740. Has the department/agency paid for any non-conventional therapy for any Minister or staff? If yes:
- a) What therapies have been provided?
 - b) What were they used to treat?
 - c) What was the cost of the therapy?

Answer:

3739. Non-conventional therapies are able to be provided by the Royal Australian Mint (the Mint)
- a) For workers wishing to participate in an Early Intervention Program, a medical certificate from a doctor outlining a treatment plan is to be submitted for approval prior to the treatment being sought.
 - b) Non-conventional therapies are available to any Mint employee meeting the requirements of the Early Intervention Case Management Policy.
 - c) Therapies would be covered in accordance with the Mint's Early Intervention Case Management Policy (MP-20AQ, 20 March 2014)
3740. The Royal Australian Mint has not paid for any non-conventional therapy for any Minister or staff to date and will be unlikely to do so in the future as non-conventional therapies generally do not have independent medical research supporting their effectiveness.