

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates 2004-2005, 17 February 2005

Question: HS54

Outcome 1, Output 1.1: Effective delivery of Australian Government services to eligible customers

Topic: Medicare Offices

Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written

Senator Forshaw asked on 17 February 2005:

- (1) How many new Medicare offices did the Government commit to during the election campaign?
- (2) Where are those offices to be located?
- (3) What is the proposed start-up date for the offices?
- (4) What is the cost of the offices?
- (5) Where will the funds come from for this commitment?

Answer:

- (1) The Government made a commitment to establish two new Medicare offices during the election campaign.
- (2) The new offices will be located in Wynnum (QLD) and Tuncurry (NSW).
- (3) It is expected that the proposed sites will be operational within the next six months, depending on availability of suitable premises.
- (4) Funding for these new Medicare offices is estimated to cost \$5.4 million over five years.
- (5) The funding will be provided through additional appropriation.