

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

Budget Estimates Hearings, 25-26 May 2005

Question: F23

Outcome: 1, Output: 1

Topic: Medicare Safety Net

Hansard Page: F&PA 100

Senator Sherry asked:

When and how was Minister Minchin advised about the situation regarding the safety net (post election)?

Answer:

Post election, the increase in the estimated cost of the Medicare Safety Net was public knowledge. The revised estimates were included in the *Pre-Election Economic and Fiscal Outlook 2004* and in the *Charter of Budget Honesty* costing titled 'Saving for Labor's Better Priorities – Save Medicare – Abolish the Medicare Safety Net'.