

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Medicare Australia

Budget Estimates 2006-2007, May 2007

Question: HS42

Agency: Medicare Australia

Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Topic: Medicare Easyclaim

Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Hansard Page F&PA 125

SENATOR LUNDY asked on 24/05/2007:

Senator LUNDY—What is the total cost of setting up this new system: year to date, the estimated actuals for this financial year and the next financial year? While you are there, I am interested in the 2008-09 and 2009-10 financial years as well.

Ms Argall—While we are finding this year's actual expenditures, I can tell you the estimates for the out years remain as we advised at the last Senate estimates hearings.

Senator LUNDY—All I want is the estimated actuals.

Ms Mellor—I will have to take that on notice.

Answer:

Medicare Australia's direct expenditure for 2006-07 will be in the order of \$7.8 million.

The table below depicts the approved appropriations and net position for Medicare Australia for the 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 financial years.

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Total Expenses	7,754,000	9,222,000	4,784,000
Transaction Fees	15,159,000	37,147,000	40,347,000
<i>Less: Reduction in transaction fee¹</i>	-1,213,000	-2,972,000	-3,228,000
Subtotal	21,700,000	43,397,000	41,903,000
Savings	-23,622,000	-52,968,000	-60,501,000
Net Impact to Medicare Australia	-1,922,000	-9,571,000	-18,598,000

¹ The appropriation for the transaction fees was reduced to reflect the actual rate of \$0.23 per transaction (original estimates were based on a fee of \$0.25 per transaction).