Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Supplementary Estimates Hearing – October 2010

Outcome 1, Program 1.1
Topic: COAG Health Reform

Question reference number: F9

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 96, 19 October 2010

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Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

In relation to question 14—same concept in relation to the criteria. I notice that it is partly building, and the rest of the cost of implementing the measure I assume is for the bureaucratic support for those measures. How did you come to the \$1.4 million and how did you come to the \$1.9 million that are referred to there? Did Finance have a role in relation to that \$1.4 and that \$1.9 million?

Answer:

The Department of Finance and Deregulation agreed costs with the Department of Health and Ageing for the implementation of measures to provide funding for capital works in emergency departments (which included \$1.4 million in implementation costs), and to establish and administer a funding pool to provide reward payments for meeting new targets associated with the timeliness of treatment in emergency departments (which included \$1.9 million in implementation costs).

Finance agreed these costings on the basis that they were a reasonable estimate of the costs associated with implementing these measures. This assessment was based on previous examples of implementing programs of a similar nature, and similar scope.