

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Vowles to the Minister for Health:

SENIORS

1. Please provide the number of people who are currently approved on the NT Pensioner and Carer Concession Scheme (NTPCCS)?

Response: As at 30 June 2014 the scheme had 27,181 members.

2. How many people were approved to enter the NTPCCS in 2013-14?

Response: 2,364 members were approved to enter the NTPCCS in 2013-14.

3. How many people were approved to enter the NTPCCS in 2012-13?

Response: There were 3,831 members approved to enter the NTPCCS in 2012-13.

4. How much was spent on travel entitlements through the NTPCCS this financial year?

Response: \$102,287.53 has currently been spent on travel entitlements this financial year (period 1 July 2014 – 24 July 2014).

5. How much is budgeted for travel entitlements through the NTPCCS in 2014-15?

Response: There is no individual budget item quarantined for travel concession.

6. How many staff in the Department of Health are dedicated to the running and administration of the NTPCCS?

Response: There are currently 5FTE dedicated to running the administration of the scheme.

7. What is the budget for staff working and operations within the NTPCCS for 2013-14 and 2014-15?

Response: The 2013-14 staffing budget was \$264,211. Following a review the 2014-15 staffing budget is \$406,000.

8. How will seniors now applying for the NTPCCS be means tested and what will be the limits? Will it include:

- a) Assets
- b) Superannuation?
- c) Partner/household income?

Response: Any means testing is governed by the membership eligibility criteria associated with obtaining a Commonwealth Department of Human Services, or Commonwealth Department of Veterans' Affairs concession card.

9. What is the income limit?

Response: Any income limit is governed by the membership eligibility criteria associated with obtaining a Commonwealth Department of Human Services, or Commonwealth Department of Veterans' Affairs concession card.