Question: E12-257

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: ASGC – RA System

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Di Natale

Question:

Given the anomalies in the ASGC -RA system, what work is underway to develop and apply an improved classification system for remoteness?

Answer:

The Australian Standard Geographical Classification – Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA) system was developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) as a statistical geographical classification that allows quantitative comparisons between 'city' and 'country' Australia. The ABS will progressively replace the current ASGC with the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) as the framework, which will entail a new range of statistical areas.

As part of the 2012-13 review of health workforce programs, rural workforce programs will be assessed for efficiency and effectiveness. The review will include an assessment of the delivery of program incentives and the use of the classification systems that determine eligibility.