

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 30 May 2014

Ref No: BE14-006

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Health Plan media release

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

The media release from Assistant Health Minister Senator the Hon Fiona Nash on 30 May 2014 states that 'the Health Plan would be updated to reflect the Government's approach and priorities for Indigenous affairs...'

- a) How will the Government 'update' the Plan? Please detail the process.
- b) Who will be responsible for updating the Plan? The Assistant Minister for Health? The Minister's advisers? The department? If so, please detail the APS level of the relevant staff.
- c) The Plan enjoys wide support across the sector and was developed in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. What is the consultation process for the update of the plan? Did the Minister or the department consult stakeholders about the proposed changes to the Plan?
- d) What are the specific substantive changes that will be made to the Plan?
- e) When will the changes be finalised and released to the public?

Answer:

a) to e)

The Health Plan will be updated to reflect the Government's approach and priorities for Indigenous affairs, to recognise the important links between education, employment, community safety and health.

The Government is currently considering the process, including consultation and timing, through which the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan will be updated and then released.

