

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 30 May 2014**

**Ref No:** BE14-023

**OUTCOME:** 5 - Primary Health Care

**Topic:** Indigenous health expenditure

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** McLucas, Jan

**Question:**

A comparison between Indigenous health expenditure shown in Table 8: Summary of expenses – health, Budget Paper No.1 2013-14, and Table 8: Summary of expenses – health, Budget Paper No.1 2014-15 shows a reduction of \$324 over the forward estimates. Could the department explain the difference in these figures?

**Answer:**

The difference in the figures is due to:

- 2013 Machinery of Government transfer of some Indigenous health functions from the Department of Health to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and the Department of Social Services; and
- Initial reduction of \$121.8 million in line with funding available in 2014-15 (from 2013-14 to 2017-18) identified in the 2014-15 Budget and outlined in Budget Paper No. 2.