

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-259

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: MULTICULTURAL MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT (MMHA)

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

If it wasn't for good procurement process then on what basis did DoHA decide to put the MMHA grant to open tender?

Answer:

As per the answer to E11-258, the Department advised the then providers of the Multicultural Mental Health Australia project that the Department of Health and Ageing intended, as good procurement process, to approach the market for the next phase of the project. The Commonwealth Grant Guidelines require that, unless specifically agreed otherwise, competitive, merit-based selection processes should be used, based upon specifically designed selection criteria.

This was also consistent with the independent review of the project which recommended that the Department conduct an open market process for the future management of the project.