

**Senate Finance & Public Administration References Committee
Inquiry into the COAG Reforms Relating to Health and Hospitals**

**Answers to Questions on Notice
Dr Christine Bennett**

In response to your email dated 9th June 2010, please find my answers to each of those questions set out below:

Q: When did your contract to conduct the National Health and Hospital Reform Commission commence and cease?

A: The announcement that I was to be Chair of the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission was made on 25th February 2008. The Commission was established in March 2008 and was de-commissioned/ceased on 30th June 2009. I continued to be available for advice on the same contract which was extended until the end of December 2009. During that extension period, I attended approximately 12 consultations and some ad-hoc briefings. I have had no formal role since 31st December 2009.

Q: What level of consultation on the National Health and Hospital Network have you had with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Department of Health and Ageing? Over what timeframe has the consultation taken place?

A: I have responded to queries relating to my Commission's report on an occasional and ad-hoc basis.

Thank you for allowing me an extended deadline.

Regards

Dr Christine Bennett

Chief Medical Officer & Director Healthcare Leadership