

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 17 February 2012

Question: E12-389

OUTCOME 8: Indigenous Health

Topic: APPOINTMENT OF TOM CALMA AS NATIONAL COORDINATOR

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

Can the Department outline the process by which Tom Calma was appointed National Tobacco Coordinator – Tackling Indigenous Smoking given that he was awarded the contract by direct tender (i.e. nobody else was asked to submit a tender)?

Answer:

The position was originally advertised on 20 August 2009 through a tender process. Applications closed on 30 September 2009 and no suitable applicants were received during this time. The Department of Health and Ageing then engaged a recruitment agency to conduct an executive recruitment process including national advertisement and approaches to key individuals for the position.

Dr Tom Calma requested the selection documents during this process and subsequent discussions identified his availability to fulfill the role on a part time basis.

Dr Calma was subsequently engaged due to his highly relevant experience and expertise.