

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-165

OUTCOME 10: Health System Capacity and Quality

Topic: eHealth

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Senator Boyce

Question:

In an answer to a written question on notice from the Estimates of October last year [WQON 361] regarding what will replace the expired National Partnership on E-Health DOHA stated that an; “eHealth Memorandum of Understanding was agreed by the Standing Council on Health at its meeting on November 9, 2012. However, the communique released after that meeting stated that the Ministers had only “noted progress on the eHealth MOU.”

- a) Can you explain this apparent inconsistency between your answer and the stated actions of the Standing Council on eHealth?
- b) If, as you claim a new ‘eHealth MOU’ is in existence could you please provide me with a copy of it?

Answer:

- a) The eHealth Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was agreed in principle by Standing Council on Health at its meeting of November 2012 and was circulated to Ministers out of session for signing.
- b) The MOU does not commence until it is signed by all parties. The MOU will be released once all jurisdictions have signed.