

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2015 - 16, 10 February 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000277

OUTCOME: 5 – Primary Health Care

Topic: National Mental Health Commission

Type of Question: Hansard Page 80, 10 February 2016

Senator: Gallagher, Katy

Question:

Senator GALLAGHER: Have you done any work on housing?

Mr Butt: We are doing work on housing at the moment. We have identified that in terms of Contributing Life one of the most important things to have is stable housing. All the health services you like are obviously important, but if you do not have stable housing then obviously that impacts on the other parts of Contributing Life in terms of education and employment. We have done some work on it. We have tended to use the work done by others but we are getting a report done through a data linkage program involving ABS, PBS and MBS data to look at combining those things and identifying issues of housing and how that has impacted on people's mental ill health. That is coming out this month, or it might be next month, I would have to check and make sure. I will take that on notice.

Answer:

The National Mental Health Commission is working with the Australian Bureau of Statistics to develop a publication on housing which is planned for release on 13 May 2016.