

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000068

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Mersey Hospital

Type of Question: Hansard Page 95, 1 March 2017

Senator: Polley, Helen

Question:

Senator POLLEY: In relation to the meeting that was held in late February with the Tasmanian minister and the Premier, can you provide to us the number of times the state minister for health and whichever federal minister was in town at the time have met with the Tasmanian government. Can you give us the dates, please.

Mr Bowles: We could take it on notice, but, again, we do not manage ministers' diaries.

Senator POLLEY: No, but you would have provided advice around those times—

Mr Bowles: We may or may not have.

Senator POLLEY: Could you take that on notice.

Mr Bowles: There are a whole range of ways ministers talk to each other. We are not necessarily privy to all of those. We will take it on notice and give you a qualified answer for what we know.

Answer:

The Department of Health provided the Minister for Health, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, with briefing material to support the Minister in a meeting with the Tasmanian Government scheduled for February 2017. The Department does not have responsibility for the Minister's diary and is unable to confirm on what date or dates any meetings may have occurred.