

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2016 – 2017, 1 March 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000163

**OUTCOME:** 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation

**Topic:** Alcohol Guidelines

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Leyonhjelm, David

**Question:**

Does the NHMRC consider that Ms McKenzie AM, listed on the NHMRC websites as the sole consumer advocates on the committee, is an advocate of alcohol consumers, or representative of alcohol consumers? If yes, on what basis (noting that Ms McKenzie's Consumer and Community Health Research Network specifically engages with consumers of health services, rather than consumers of alcohol)?

**Answer:**

The target audience of the *Australian Guidelines to Reduce Health Risks from Drinking Alcohol* (2009) is the Australian community. Given Ms McKenzie's experience in community engagement in research she has been appointed as a consumer advocate to ensure that the advice the National Health and Medical Research Council develops is relevant to and understandable by the Australian community.