

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000353

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Alcohol and other Drugs

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

Many users with severe methamphetamine problems have other comorbidities, especially alcohol and poly drug use. How is the Ice Action strategy working with other alcohol and drug services to help and treat users?

Answer:

The revised National Comorbidity Guidelines were released in July 2016 to increase the drug and alcohol workforce's knowledge and awareness of co-occurring mental health conditions in drug and alcohol treatment settings.

Primary Health Networks (PHNs) have undertaken extensive planning and consultation with a range of local stakeholders and service providers to inform the development of their commissioning approach. This planning and consultation has been important to ensure that PHN planning processes are informed by local drug and alcohol needs and priorities, and that commissioning processes and service models are co-designed and endorsed by local key stakeholders, as appropriate. This included consultation with local state/territory service providers through the Local Hospital Network/Local Health Network system.