

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000455

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Mental Health Workforce

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: O'Neill, Deborah

Question:

Has the Department carried out any modelling to determine what the mental health workforce need will be in the future. If yes, can the Department provide the modelling. If not, why not?

Answer:

The most recent modelling on the mental health nursing workforce was undertaken by Health Workforce Australia and published in the Australia's Future Health Workforce – Nurses Report (2014) available at <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/australias-future-health-workforce-nurses>

The Department has also contributed funding towards the National Mental Health Service Planning Framework (the Framework), the development of which was jointly funded by jurisdictions.

The Framework provides an evidence based model that assists in determining how to allocate mental health services in a given geographic area (for example a state or territory, or a PHN). It is the first nationally consistent model of its kind.