

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2013-14, 5/6 & 7 June 2013**

**Question:** E13-174

**OUTCOME:** 7 – Hearing Services

**Topic:** Data Set and Register for Neonatal Hearing Screening

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 123, 6 June 2013

**Senator:** Siewert

**Question:**

Can you provide an update on recommendation 14 of the Senate Inquiry regarding timing for the development of the data set and register for neonatal hearing screening.

**Answer:**

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has prepared a paper containing data standards and proposed national performance indicators for hearing screening in Australia. It was endorsed by the Community Care and Population Health Principle Committee (a subcommittee of the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Committee) in August 2013. It is anticipated the paper will be published in November 2013.

All jurisdictions have introduced state-wide universal neonatal hearing screening programs and are examining data collections and quality issues. States and territories will continue their current collection and reporting of neonatal hearing screening and will work towards data collection and reporting of the seven performance indicators within available resources..