

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

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

Question: E13-215

OUTCOME: 12 - Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: Training Pathways for Rural Generalists

Type of Question: Hansard Page 100, 5 June 2013

Senator: Fierravanti-Wells

Question:

Can you just tell me what work Rural and Regional Health Australia is undertaking with respect to improving training pathways for rural generalists? So far as it may have not been answered, can I just put that one on notice.

Can you also tell me what progress is being made towards a national training plan, as stakeholders have been calling for one? Is that, again, a workforce issue?

Answer:

Health Workforce Australia (HWA) has been consulting on a draft National Framework for Rural Medical Generalists and has funded and evaluated seven projects in six states and territories on Rural Medical Generalist programs to assist in building an evidence base.

On 27 April 2012, the Standing Committee on Health released national workforce modelling for doctors, nurses and midwives, *Health Workforce 2025: Doctors, Nurses and Midwives* (HW2025). HW2025 predicts health workforce requirements out to the year 2025 and presents policy alternatives to address the identified workforce issues.

To address the identified issues, Health Ministers agreed to policy projects, one of which is the establishment of the National Medical Training Advisory Network to produce national training plans to coordinate the medical training pipeline.