

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000395

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Medicare Locals

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Wright, Penny

Question:

Medicare Locals were established less than two years ago, and have been providing mental health services to many people. How will the government ensure that those currently relying on Medicare Locals will not see a reduction in access to services or treatment programmes?

Answer:

Funding will continue to be provided to Medicare Locals for existing mental health programmes during 2014-15.

Future funding for mental health services will be informed by the outcome of the National Mental Health Commission review of mental health programmes.