

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000535

OUTCOME: 7 - Health Infrastructure, Regulation, Safety and Quality

Topic: Consultation with Health Consumers and Carers on the Budget Measures

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Xenophon, Nick

Question:

Standard 2 Partnering with Consumers is a national safety and quality standard which health services in Australia must meet as part of their accreditation. It specifies consumer and carer roles in governance for service planning, designing care and service measurement and evaluation. The key principle underlying the national standards is that we can only improve our health services by using the knowledge, skills and experience of people who are using, have used or may use the health service. Has the Government consulted with health consumers and carers on the budget measures for health?

a) If so what was the nature and extent of the consultation process, and what were the results of this consultation process?

Answer:

While the Government does not consult with consumers or stakeholders on the final content of the Budget, it does employ a wide range of consultative mechanisms which influence the development of new policy proposals.