

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000735

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Shared Resources Post Machinery of Government

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Ludwig, Joe

Question:

1. Following the Machinery of Government changes does the department share any goods/services/accommodation with other departments?
2. What resources/services does the department share with other departments; are there plans to cease sharing the sharing of these resources/services?
3. What were the costs to the department prior to the Machinery of Government changes for these shared resources? What are the estimated costs after the ceasing of shared resource arrangements?

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. Following Machinery of Government changes, the Department of Health shares resources/services with the Department of Social Services (DSS) and these arrangements are managed under a Memorandum of Understanding. Shared services/resources include office space, meeting rooms, conference rooms, training rooms and property and facilities management. These arrangements exist in all capital cities with the exception of Brisbane where the two departments are not collocated due to constraints of existing lease arrangements. There are no plans to cease these arrangements.
3. To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.