

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000964

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: National Mental Health Services Planning Framework

Type of Question: Hansard Page 106, 2 June 2014

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

(to Prof. Halton) Who asked for the work to be done? Which entity was it? How did New South Wales become the lead entity? What was proposed to be the approval mechanism? Was it through the ministerial council or was it through another form? (The National Mental Health Services Planning Framework)

Answer:

The National Mental Health Service Planning Framework (the Framework) is an initiative of the Fourth National Mental Health Plan 2000-2014 endorsed by all Health Ministers in September 2009. The Framework will be considered via the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council committee structure.

In 2011 the Department of Health directly approached the New South Wales Ministry of Health and Queensland Health to jointly undertake the project to develop the Framework. An earlier scoping study by the Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research, on behalf of the Department of Health, revealed that quantitative planning models for mental health services had been developed by New South Wales and Queensland. New South Wales and Queensland were selected to undertake the project on the basis that they had the required level of technical expertise and contemporary knowledge of mental health service planning methodologies.