

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014

Ref No: SQ14-001011

OUTCOME: 1 - Population Health

Topic: Review of Preventative Health Programs

Type of Question: Hansard Page 57, 3 June 2014

Senator: Moore, Claire

Question:

Could I put on notice about the issues of review? Mr Smyth has already said there are national surveys; I would like to know what they are. Also, allowing for the range of programs that have been in place until today—and the review has been in place until the end of the month—I would like to know the status of that. Will they do a final report? Will we be able to get a snapshot of what has occurred up until now? Also, what is going to be the assessment process for everything that has happened under this program? I know the indication we had is that the preliminary report has led in some way to the decision that was made about where we go forward to, but we need to get a view about everything that has occurred in this program so we will know what has worked and what has not.

Answer:

The National surveys that collect information on health risk factors are the:

- the 2011-13 Australian Health Survey conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) collected information on tobacco smoking, weight, fruit and vegetable consumption and physical activity for adults and children;
- the National Drug Strategy Household Survey conducted by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare includes the collection of data on smoking prevalence rates; and
- the National Secondary Students' Diet and Activity Survey and the Australian Secondary Schools Alcohol and Drug Survey, conducted by the Cancer Council of Victoria, may collect information on children's physical activity (depending on arrangements in each state and territory).

The evaluation of the National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health (NPAPH) was terminated following the Budget decision to terminate the NPAPH on 30 June 2014. The Department of Health will consider options for evaluating the work to date including findings from the formative evaluation of the NPAPH.