

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 – 2 June 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000569

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Primary Health Networks

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Siewert, Rachel

Question:

Has the Department considered alternative funding options for the Aboriginal-specific health previously allocated to the Medicare Locals? Re-distribution to Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHSs)? Re-distribution as grant funding through the Indigenous Rural Health Division?

Answer:

Ten Primary Health Networks (PHNs) will receive funding for Indigenous Australians' Health Programme - Primary Health Care activities. As specified in the *Primary Health Network Grant Funding Programme Guidelines*, in 2015-16, programme funding managed by Medicare Locals that is in scope for transfer to PHNs, will be maintained through comparable funding arrangements to ensure continuity of services in the PHN establishment phase.