

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 – 2 June 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000666

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Mental Health Contracts

Type of Question: Hansard Page 71, 1 June 2015

Senator: Wright, Penny

Question:

Mr Cormack: I think if you ask a hundred organisations you will probably get a hundred different answers. Clearly, they want as much notice as possible and as long a possible funding period as they can get. Our job is to work within the constraints that we have. We do not have a government response. We will support that response being put together. Once it has been put together, we will work expeditiously to ensure that the necessary security that funded organisations have is able to be delivered. In terms of what is a reasonable amount of time, as much time as possible, is all I can say. I do not think there is a definitive answer there. Our contracts require some period of indication. I will have to—

Senator WRIGHT: Do you know what that period is?

Mr Booth: I do not know off the top of my head.

Answer:

Government funding can be provided to organisations in a variety of ways (such as through open, targeted or direct approaches to market). These approaches to market have different application processes and timing periods for decision making. Generally final funding arrangements will be determined following Government consideration and policy directions.