

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000531

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: National Health Reform Working Group

Type of Question: Hansard Page 29, 29 May 2017

Senator: Watt, Murray

Question:

Senator WATT: Can I clarify one point that just came up: Mr Bowles, I think your answer was that Minister Hunt could have been briefed on this in his incoming minister briefs. Do you know whether he was?

Mr Bowles: No. We may have actually provided a paper. I would have to go back and have a look. I just do not want to say that we never did anything and then find out we have actually done something.

Senator WATT: Could you take that on notice?

Mr Bowles: If there was an incoming brief, we may have referenced the fact that something is happening, but the only conversation I had with him was in the context of briefing him for the COAG Health Council meeting.

Senator WATT: Could you take on notice whether he was provided with a briefing in his incoming briefs?

Mr Bowles: Yes.

Answer:

The Minister was not specifically briefed on the Commonwealth Hospital Benefit in his incoming minister briefs though there was a short reference to it in one brief.