

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

**Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 30 May 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000579

**OUTCOME:** 2 - Health Access and Support Services

**Topic:** National Mental Health Services Planning Framework

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 8, 30 May 2017

**Senator:** Siewert, Rachel

**Question:**

Senator SIEWERT: Can you give us the framework for the modelling?

Mr Cormack: The national mental health services planning framework is a Commonwealth and state planning tool; it is largely finalised as a planning tool. We do not own that model. I would have to take that on notice and consult with the states and territories.

**Answer:**

The National Mental Health Service Planning Framework (NMHSPF) is a tool designed to help plan, coordinate and resource mental health services to meet population needs. It is an evidence-based framework providing national average benchmarks for optimal service delivery across the full spectrum of mental health services in Australia. The NMHSPF allows users to estimate need and expected demand for mental health care and the level and mix of mental health services required for a given population.

On 12 April 2017, the Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Principal Committee (MHDAPC) endorsed the strategic approach for national development including controlled release under licensing arrangements to those with a role in planning health services.

The NMHSPF will be distributed under licensing arrangements to Primary Health Networks, state/territory governments and their Local Health Networks. The licenses are necessary to ensure that the tool is used only by personnel with a legitimate reason for its use and to protect the integrity of the data outputs.