

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 30 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000609

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: National Maternity Services Plan

Type of Question: Hansard Page 74, 30 May 2017

Senator: Waters, Larissa

Question:

Senator WATERS: Just wrapping up, because I know we are very tight on time, will the new framework include the provision for public reporting of data, either from the hospital themselves as well as progress under the plan's various objectives?

Mr Cormack: I cannot answer that question, because the framework has not been settled. It will be considered through the AHMAC and COAG Health Council process towards the end of year, but we are happy to take that on notice. And we will provide you with advice as to whether that is part of the process.

Answer:

The draft National Framework for Maternity Services (NFMS) is under development and subject to further consultation.

The consultation draft of the NFMS identified a number of established indicators and data development initiatives that promote public reporting of data. These include the National Core Maternity Indicators which aim to monitor safety and quality of maternity care; the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's National Maternity Data Development Project for the collection of maternal and perinatal health data; and the National Safety and Quality Health Services Standards.

The consultation draft of the NFMS also identified the opportunity to develop further measures and systematic collection of data relating to the maternity continuum of care to further inform maternity service planning and delivery.