

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000742

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Watt, Murray

Question:

- a) Given there has been no investment in preventive health and no funding attached to the National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions, how does the Government expect this to contribute to achieving World Health Organization (WHO) nine global targets and 25 indicators?
- b) The next steps for the Framework involve developing indicators or targets to measure progress in achieving a reduction in chronic disease. Given this work has already been done by the Australian Health Policy Collaboration (AHPC) will the Government consider adopting these targets?

Answer:

The Department of Health implements a broad range of preventive health measures. Activities include addressing healthy eating, physical activity, obesity, tobacco, alcohol, research, immunisation, chronic disease, mental health initiatives and cancer screening. Health's preventive health efforts aim to support people to take responsibility to reduce their health related risk factors.

Consistent with national and international experience, the *National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions* (the Framework) recognises that addressing chronic conditions effectively is complex and will require the contribution from all partners. This includes governments at all levels, non-government organisations, industry, public and private health sectors, researchers and academics, communities and individuals, as well as partnering with external sectors. Collective action in line with the Strategic Priority Areas of the Framework will deliver a more effective and coordinated national response to chronic conditions, and will contribute to achieving the nine global targets and 25 indicators identified in the World Health Organization's Non-communicable Disease Global Monitoring Framework.

The National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions Reporting Project is not expected to duplicate the work being undertaken by the AHPC to develop and report on chronic disease prevention and reduction targets and indicators for achievement by 2025. However, the AHPC work may assist to inform monitoring against the objectives of the Framework, in particular *Objective 1: Focus on prevention for a healthier Australia*.