

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000957

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Indigenous Liaison in Hospitals

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Griff, Stirling

Question:

Katherine Hospital's use of indigenous liaison staff appears to have improved treatment completion rates for indigenous people. Has the department considered mandating Indigenous liaison staff at every hospital that cares for a significant indigenous population?

Answer:

While the Commonwealth provides funding to states and territories for public hospitals, the responsibility for the management of the public hospital system, including the employment of Aboriginal hospital liaison officers, rests with states and territories.