

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October

Question: E10-311

OUTCOME 5: Primary Care

Topic: GP SUPER CLINICS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

What consultation, if any, is undertaken with affected medical practices and patients before approving a super clinic?

Answer:

With regard to the original 36 GP Super Clinics announced in 2007, there was extensive consultation with each local community. All local members and potentially affected members of the local community were encouraged to turn up. There was a significant allowance made for listening to views at the time. A précis of each consultation was published on our website (refer to Senate Community Affairs Committee Supplementary Budget Estimates Hansard, Wednesday, 20 October 2010, page CA 56).

In regard to the 28 new GP Super Clinics announced in 2010, Minister Roxon's media release dated 28 October 2010 announced that consultations will be held over the next six months for 13 communities (including: Adelaide and Mt Barker in South Australia; Caboolture, Emerald, Gold Coast, Mackay, Sunshine Coast, Townsville, and Wynnum in Queensland; Canberra in the Australian Capital Territory; Darwin in the Northern Territory; Lower Hunter in New South Wales; and West Pilbara in Western Australia) prior to commencing funding processes.