

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 21 October 2011

Question: E11-230

OUTCOME 8: Indigenous Health

Topic: GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMONWEALTH FUNDED  
ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY CONTROLLED HEALTH SERVICES (ACCHS)

Written Question on Notice

Senator Adams asked:

Governance arrangements for Commonwealth funded Aboriginal Community  
Controlled Health Services (ACCHS)

- a) Who determines the membership of the governing corporations of the ACCHSs?
- b) What expertise is required for membership of the governing corporation?
- c) How does the Commonwealth determine that each governing corporation has the appropriate mix of skills and expertise?
- d) Does any vetting occur? Are members required to meet the 'fit and proper' person test?

Answer:

In responding to these questions it has been assumed that the term "governing corporations of ACCHSs" means the Board of Directors.

- a) The membership of the Board of Directors is determined by the members of the organisation. The process for election to the Board of Directors is set out in the "Rule Book" of the organisation. Elections usually occur at an Annual General Meeting.
- b) This is determined by each individual organisation and may be set out in the organisations "Rule Book".
- c) The Department of Health and Ageing regularly undertakes risk assessments on ACCHS which includes organisational corporate governance matters.
- d) Vetting of membership may be set out in the "Rule Book" of the organisation but this is a decision for the individual organisation and the incorporating body under whichever legislation the organisation is incorporated.