

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-367

OUTCOME 5: Primary Care

Topic: MEDICARE LOCALS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) For each of the first 19 Medicare Locals:
- b) On what date was their transitional funding agreement signed?
- c) On what date was their contract signed?
- d) When did the Medicare Local start operating under that final contract?
- e) What was the purpose of the “transitional funding agreement”?
- f) How does the “transitional funding agreement” differ from their final funding agreement?

Answer:

- a) Response follows:
- b) Initial funding agreements for the Tranche 1 Medicare Locals were executed on the following dates:
 - ACT (27 June 2011)
 - Gold Coast (27 June 2011)
 - Greater Metro South Brisbane (27 June 2011)
 - Hunter Urban (27 June 2011)
 - Inner East Melbourne (27 June 2011)
 - Inner North West Melbourne (27 June 2011)
 - Murrumbidgee (27 June 2011)
 - New England (27 June 2011)
 - Northern Melbourne (27 June 2011)
 - Perth North Metro (27 June 2011)

- Townsville-Mackay (27 June 2011)
- West Moreton Oxley (27 June 2011)
- Barwon (29 June 2011)
- Country North SA (29 June 2011)
- South West WA (29 June 2011)
- Tasmania (29 June 2011)
- Western Sydney (29 June 2011)
- Central Adelaide and Hills (30 June 2011)

The Metro North Brisbane Medicare Local received establishment funding and core funding in a single funding agreement executed on 30 June 2011.

c) Funding agreements for the provision of core funding to Tranche 1 Medicare Locals were executed on the following dates:

- Greater Metro North Brisbane (30 June 2011)
- New England (13 July 2011)
- Murrumbidgee (14 July 2011)
- Metro South Brisbane (20 July 2011)
- Western Sydney (3 August 2011)
- Northern Melbourne (3 August 2011)
- South West WA (4 August 2011)
- Inner East Melbourne (22 August 2011)
- ACT (24 August 2011)
- Perth North Metro (25 August 2011)
- Barwon (29 August 2011)
- Townsville-Mackay (2 September 2011)
- Hunter Urban (5 September 2011)
- Country North SA (7 September 2011)
- Gold Coast (7 September 2011)
- Central Adelaide and Hills (26 September 2011)
- West Moreton Oxley (26 September 2011)
- Tasmania (4 November 2011)
- Inner North West Melbourne (22 November 2011)

d) The Medicare Locals began operating under these funding agreements on the date of execution.

e) The purpose of establishment funding provided in the initial funding agreements was to provide funds to support the establishment and initial operation of the Medicare Locals entities.

f) The funding agreement for establishment funding was executed with the lead organisation forming the Medicare Local and supported activities such as forming a new company, setting up governance and membership arrangements, recruiting the executive team and transferring staff, assets, leases and program contracts from founding organisations to the Medicare Local entity.

The final funding agreement was executed with the Medicare Local and provides core funding to support the ongoing operational costs Medicare Locals, and to support the skills and capacity of each Medicare Local to achieve its strategic objectives.