

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-387

OUTCOME 5: Primary Care

Topic: GP SUPER CLINIC

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

In 2009 the Government announced 5 GP Super Clinics at South Morang, Wodonga, Portland, Cockburn and Gunnedah:

- a) Can the Department explain how these locations were chosen?
- b) What criteria were used to choose these locations?
- c) What input did the Department have to the choice of these locations?
- d) What criteria were used by the Minister to determine these locations?
- e) Why did the Department not invite applications for these 5 Clinics?

Answer:

a) and c)

The South Morang, Wodonga, Portland, Cockburn and Gunnedah GP Super Clinic projects were identified from unsolicited proposals provided by a range of organisations.

b) and d)

The proposed locations were examined against principles relating to the levels of chronic disease or high health needs of the local community, the level of access to health services, the availability of local health infrastructure and the demand on emergency departments of local hospitals that could be reduced by the introduction of preventative health care services.

e)

It was a decision of the Government to directly fund the proposing organisations to establish the Clinics. Each organisation was invited to apply for funding under the application process identified in the National Program Guide 2008 and was assessed in line with the published GP Super Clinic assessment process.