

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-413

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSIONERS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) What advice has the Department provided to Minister Roxon and Minister Snowdon in regards to a “shortlist” for the nine Mental Health Commissioners?
- b) Why has this advice not been given to Minister Butler?
- c) How will the nine commissioners be chosen?
- d) When is the announcement expected to be made?

Answer:

- a) The Department of Health and Ageing drafted responses for Ministers’ Roxon and Snowdon, in reply to correspondence to them from Minister Butler, which provided biographical information on a number of individuals who might be suitable for appointment by Cabinet as Commissioners to the National Mental Health Commission.
- b) Minister Butler is assisting the Prime Minister in establishing the Commission, and sought advice from Minister Roxon and Minister Snowdon on possible candidates.
- c) and d)
The Department of Health and Ageing is unable to answer as the process to assist Government to appoint Commissioners is being managed by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.