

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 21 October 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000966

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Primary Health Networks

Type of Question: Hansard Page 49, 21 October 2015

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

Senator McLUCAS: Does the department have a final figure to date associated with the cost of closing all the Medicare Locals and establishing the 31 PHNs?

Mr Booth: Not as yet. As we have discussed before, we have been going through a claims determination process, whereby the Medicare Locals have been assessing the claims that they are making against the Commonwealth in terms of the contracts stopping a year early. They were required to do their initial claim for termination schedule, I think, from July. The majority of them submitted that by then, but then there is a bit of a process of going backwards and forwards with that, double-checking and all that kind of thing. We got some final information in September, and we are just working through those at the moment and getting their audited financial results. We hope that we will have that figure by the end of November.

Senator McLUCAS: Could I ask on notice that, when you have that figure, we could have a look at it?

Answer:

Please see the response provided to Question on Notice SQ15-000882.