

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 21 October 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000968

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Primary Health Networks

Type of Question: Hansard Page 50, 21 October 2015

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

I am wondering whether the name 'Medicare Local' is still owned by the government? Is there copyright on that name?

Answer:

No organisations are currently operating as Medicare Locals.

As part of the termination process, all Medicare Locals signed a 'Deed of Termination and Release' which dictated that from 30 November 2015 they were no longer permitted to use the term 'Medicare Local'.

However, the Department of Health is aware that a small number of former Medicare Locals are continuing to operate as independent health service providers under new names. Some of these organisations are providing services under subcontract to Primary Health Networks.