

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016**

**Ref No:** SQ16-000425

**OUTCOME:** 2 - Health Access and Support Services

**Topic:** Telstra Health

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 84, 19 October 2016

**Senator:** Watt, Murray

**Question:**

Dr Southern: As I said earlier, we were advising on the progress of the process. But it was not in the context of 'We need to rush this' or anything.

Mr Bowles: There was no pressure put on me as the accountable officer to fast track this, speed it up or appoint anybody in particular. I make that point categorically.

Senator WATT: But you were updating the minister's office on the way through as to where the process was up to?

Mr Bowles: Yes, on the process—but not the people, who is in it, and all that sort of stuff.

Senator WATT: When was the last time you updated the minister's office before the decision was ultimately made?

Dr Southern: I would have to take that on notice.

**Answer:**

16 March 2016.