

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000431

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Drug and Alcohol

Type of Question: Hansard Page 94, 19 October 2016

Senator: Polley, Helen

Question:

Senator POLLEY: What is the average wait time for public drug and alcohol treatment? Can you give us the figures state by state?

Ms McGlynn: I do not have that information, but I can take that on notice. As you would appreciate, a lot of these services—about 70 per cent of services—delivered in the drug and alcohol space are delivered by the states and territories. I think it would be hard to get that information, but I am happy to take it on notice.

Senator POLLEY: Thank you. Does the department know how many people are on the waiting list for public drug and alcohol treatment?

Ms McGlynn: Again, I would have to take that on notice, for the same reasons.

Answer:

Provision of drug and alcohol treatment services, including service planning, is the primary responsibility of state and territory governments. The Department does not collect or hold information on waiting times or waiting lists for drug and alcohol treatment services.