

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

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

**Ref No:** SQ16-000526

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

**Topic:** Mental Health Services

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Siewert, Rachel

**Question:**

What information does the Department collect from the PHNs about the mental health nursing services being commissioned by the PHNs and how is this used to monitor community access to, and delivery of, these services?

**Answer:**

Through the contractual arrangements with the Department, PHNs are required to submit 6 and 12 month qualitative reports, the first of which is due to the Department on 31 March 2017.

Quantitative reporting systems to support data collection of primary mental health care services commissioned through the PHNs flexible funding pool are currently being finalised and have been developed in consultation with PHNs.

These arrangements are designed to provide data to assess overall PHN implementation of primary mental health care services. They will include reporting against a series of key performance indicators, including the proportion of regional population receiving PHN commissioned mental health services – clinical care coordination for people with severe and complex mental illness (which include clinical care coordination by mental health nurses).