

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

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

**Ref No:** SQ16-000595

**OUTCOME:** 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation

**Topic:** eHealth

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

**Senator:** Di Natale, Richard

**Question:**

What is the status of the draft National Digital Health Strategy for Australia July 2016 - June 2019?

**Answer:**

The Australian Digital Health Agency (the Agency) became operational on 1 July 2016. It was tasked at establishment with a refresh of the National Digital Health Strategy in the 2016-17 financial year.

Consultation on the National Digital Health Strategy is underway. In mid-October the Agency launched the first wave of this engagement with letters sent directly to stakeholders. On 3 November 2016 the Agency publically launched the national consultation and the [conversation.digitalhealth.gov.au](http://conversation.digitalhealth.gov.au) website. This is to encourage individuals and organisations to participate in the consultation.

This consultation process will run to 31 January. The Agency will then continue the conversation into 2017, investigating the key themes emerging from the national conversation, and focusing on developing detailed data and technology solutions to address the issues raised through the consultation.

This work will inform the new National Digital Health Strategy which will be drafted for endorsement by the COAG Health Council.