

QoN No.	Agency/ Outcome	Senator	Party	Broad Topic	QUESTION	Hansard/ Ref	Date Answer received	Date Answer tabled
SQ14-000077	8. Indigenous Health	Siewert Rachel	AG	Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector Infrastructure	Age, growth and future projected need have put Aboriginal Community Controlled Health sector infrastructure under considerable stress. What plans are in place to ensure the sustainability of this important part of the Australian Health system?	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000078	8. Indigenous Health	Siewert Rachel	AG	Aboriginal children's Ear Health	Does DOH aggregate national data on the state of Aboriginal children's ear health? If not, why not? If so, can we see the data please?	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000081	8. Indigenous Health	Siewert Rachel	AG	Aboriginal Ear Health Programs and Equipment	How much money does the Australian Government spend annually on Aboriginal ear health programs and equipment?	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000083	8. Indigenous Health	Siewert Rachel	AG	Aboriginal Ear Health Programs - Producing Improved Outcomes	How does DOH measure progress and assure taxpayers that this money is producing improved outcomes?	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000085	8. Indigenous Health	Siewert Rachel	AG	Aboriginal TSI Children	What percentage of Aboriginal TSI children require GP or ENT referral and how many of these children actually attend appointments?	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000087	8. Indigenous Health	Siewert Rachel	AG	Middle-Ear Disease	Given the chronic nature of middle-ear disease does DOHA support it being included and recognised as such in the Close the Gap strategy?	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000090	8. Indigenous Health	Siewert Rachel	AG	Aboriginal Health Report	What data underpins the biennial reporting on ear health in the Aboriginal Health Report? Transferred to PM&C	Written		15/05/2014
SQ14-000092	8. Indigenous Health	Siewert Rachel	AG	Ear Health in Aboriginal Children	Is there an agreed national strategic approach to tackling ear health in Aboriginal children?	Written	8/05/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000095	8. Indigenous Health	Siewert Rachel	AG	Delivery of Ear Health Services to Aboriginal Children	What workforce capacity issues are there that impact upon the delivery of ear health services to Aboriginal children and how are they being addressed? What evidence base informs DOH's approach to this issue?	Written	2/05/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000097	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013-2023	The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan (NATSHP) enjoys wide support across the sector and was developed in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. a.Is the Government committed to the NATSHP? b.What consultation has taken place with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people about the implementation of the plan? c.Has the department provided advice to the Minister about the implementation of the NATSHP? If yes, when? Was it via a written brief? Was it in the Incoming Government Brief? If not, why not? d.Please detail the specific steps taken by the Minister and the Department to implement the Plan since 7 September 2013. e.What plans are in place for the development of jurisdictional plans with targets and timelines foreshadowed in the strategy? f.How will Aboriginal communities be involved in setting the priorities and targets in these plans? Are there any formal processes in development to facilitate this? g.Has the Minister or the department discussed the implementation of the NATSHP with the States and Territories? If so, which States and Territories, and when?	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000103	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Equality Council	What role does NATSHEC have in advising the government on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health?	Written	7/05/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000104	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Equality Council	Has NATSHEC met since 7 September 2013? If not, why not?	Written	7/05/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000105	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Equality Council	Is NATSHEC still considered by the Government to be the primary advisers to the Government on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health?	Written	7/05/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000106	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Equality Council	NATSHEC's current Terms of Reference expire in 2014. Have Terms of Reference for the Council beyond 2014 been developed? If not, why?	Written	7/05/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000107	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	Remote Area Health Corp	Current funding for the Remote Area Health Corp (RAHC) expires on 30 June 2014. a.Will the program be funded in the next financial year? If so, how much is allocated for RAHC? b.Please detail what action has been taken to continue funding for RAHC. Is the funding currently subject to review and if so, by whom? c.Has the Minister or the department consulted with RAHC about funding arrangements to secure certainty for the future of this program? d.How much funding is budgeted for this program? e.Could you please outline the purpose and scope of the RAHC program? f.Please provide a performance update, including the number of health locum positions supported under the program. g.Have any evaluations of the program been undertaken? If so, when was the evaluation undertaken? Please detail the findings of the evaluation.	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000109	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	Medi-Hotel (Northern Territory)	The Commonwealth Government invested \$18.6 million in the construction of a short term patient facility - the 'Medi-Hotel' at Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH). The 100-bed facility was constructed to house patients from rural and remote areas requiring treatment at the hospital. The Northern Territory Government is currently using the facility to house people detained under new mandatory alcohol rehabilitation laws. a. What is the Minister for Indigenous Affairs' position on the use of the RDH Medi-Hotel as an alcohol rehabilitation detention facility? b. Has the department provided any advice to the Government about the RDH Medi-Hotel since 7 September 2013? If so, please detail the dates and advice provided. c. Has the Minister requested departmental advice in relation to the RDH Medi-Hotel? If so, on what date was this request? d. The then Minister for Health the Hon Tanya Plibersek sought repayment of the Commonwealth funding from the Northern Territory Government on the basis that the new use of the facility was not consistent with the purpose for which the funds were given. Is the Government seeking repayment of the \$18.6 million Commonwealth funding from the Northern Territory Government, consistent with the position of the previous Government? i. If so, please detail all actions the Government taken to pursue repayment of Commonwealth funds. ii. If not, why not?	Written	20/05/2014	26/06/2014

SQ14-000110	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes	A decision was taken at the last meeting of COAG on 13 December 2013 not to renew the National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes (NPA). The department advised the Committee during the previous Estimates hearing on 22 November 2013 that State officials had advised that they were waiting for advice from the new government as to their intention with regard to the NPA. a. Was advice provided to the Minister prior to the COAG meeting on 13 December 2013 about the NPA? Was this advice a written brief? b. Was the decision not to renew the NPA consistent with this advice? c. Why did the Government decide not to renew the NPA?	Written	28/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000111	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes	The Joint Report on the Review of the NPA concluded and recommended that an NPA was the best way to proceed – is this correct?	Written	28/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000112	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes	Was the advice given by the department to the government consistent with the content and recommendations of the Joint Review? If not, what advice did the department provide to the government about the continuation or renewal of the NPA?	Written	8/05/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000114	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes	During Senate Estimates hearing on 28 February 2014 the department advised that the report of the Joint Review of the NPA had been paused. Is this still the case? Did the Minister seek advice on the report prior to the COAG meeting of 13 December 2013? Was the Minister provided with advice from the department about the pausing of work on the report prior to the decision was taken to pause it? Was this advice provided in a written brief? If not, why not? When will the report be finalised? Will the report be made public?	Written	28/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000115	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes	What is the total Government expenditure on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health for 2013/14?	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000116	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes	Please list the indigenous health programs that will continue to be directly funded by the Commonwealth on an ongoing basis.	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000117	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes	During Senate Estimates hearing on 28 February 2014 the department indicated that several States had written to the Commonwealth about the expiry of bilateral partnership agreements formed within the previous strategic framework. a. Will the Government be renewing these bilateral agreements with States? b. Which States and Territories have approached the Government about renewal of these partnership agreements? c. Are there current negotiations in progress with States and Territories to renew or forge new bilateral agreements on indigenous health? If so, please advise which States and Territories are currently working with the Government on renewing these agreements and the status of current negotiations? d. Will these agreements have a formal mechanism requiring State commitment to targets and funding requirements? e. How is the Government holding States to account in the absence of a NPA? Please detail the processes and commitments the Government has in place to hold States accountable for expenditure and investment in Indigenous health in line with the Close the Gap Framework. f. Were any discussions had with States and Territories about renewal of these agreements prior to the COAG meeting of 13 December 2013?	Written	28/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000120	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health Outcomes	There is currently \$47 million that is not contracted under the Indigenous Chronic Disease Fund, which will need to be spent within this financial year. a. The department indicated during Senate Estimates hearing on 28 February 2014 that it is currently going through approval processes in relation to this funding. How many projects are under consideration? When is approval expected to be given? b. Was there an application process for projects, programs or services to be funded through this uncontracted pool of money? If so, please detail the application process and the selection criteria used in the approval process. How many applications for funding were received by the department? c. If there was no application process, how are decisions being made about how the uncontracted money is spent, and who is responsible for making these decisions? d. Are the applications under consideration expected to expend the entire \$47 million? If not, how much do current applications undergoing approval total? e. What will happen to funds not expended within this financial year?	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000121	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	Indigenous Health	The Government has indicated that a decision not to renew the National Partnership on Closing the Gap in Indigenous Health was made at the last meeting of COAG on 13 December 2013. The Government has not made a formal decision on commitment to the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013-2023. a. What is the Government's long term plan for Indigenous health? b. How will the Government ensure a nationally coordinated approach to Closing the Gap in Indigenous health with commitments from States and Territories?	Written	28/04/2014	15/05/2014
SQ14-000123	8. Indigenous Health	McLucas Jan	ALP	Suicide Prevention	Is the National Suicide Prevention Strategy currently under review? a. When was the Review initiated, and by who? b. What are the Terms of Reference for the Review? c. When will the Review be completed? d. Can you please provide an update on the progress of the Review?	Written	24/04/2014	15/05/2014

