

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015, 27 February 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000261

**OUTCOME:** 5 - Primary Health Care

**Topic:** Indigenous Eye Health

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 63, 27 February 2015

**Senator:** McLucas, Jan

**Question:**

Are the clients who were formerly serviced by the Indigenous Remote Eye Health Service continuing to receive services (comparable in type and reach) under the Rural Health Outreach Fund?

**Answer:**

Yes, all services planned by the Indigenous & Remote Eye Health Service (IRIS) were, and continue to be, implemented by fundholder organisations for the Medical Specialist Outreach Assistance Programme and its successor, the Rural Health Outreach Fund (RHOF).

The IRIS taskforce did not deliver direct eye health services to clients. The role of the IRIS was to plan eye health outreach services only. Funding for IRIS' service planning activities was time-limited and ceased on 30 June 2014 as always intended.