

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016, 12 February 2016**

**Ref No:** SQ16-000076

**OUTCOME:** 5 - Primary Health Care

**Topic:** ITA Tender documentation

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 57, 12 February 2016

**Senator:** Moore, Claire

**Question:**

Can I get a copy of the Primary Health Care Services and the Mothers and Babies terms of tender and when they are due to close? Can we have anything the department has on who was providing the services under the Medicare Local process in the 10 PHN regions? Also the PHNs in the last 12 months: how were they doing it – just to see whether Aboriginal-controlled health services were receiving any of this money in the past?

**Answer:**

The Invitation to Apply (ITA) documentation for the continuation of the Indigenous Australians' Health Programme (IAHP) Primary Health Care ([Attachment A](#)) and New Directions: Mother and Babies Services ([Attachment B](#)) was released on 28 January 2016. The ITA closed at 2.00 pm (AEDT) on 9 March 2016.

In many regions covered by the IAHP Primary Health Care and New Directions ITA, activities were delivered by Medicare Locals (and Divisions of General Practice before that) as a result of the absence at the time of an available Aboriginal community controlled health organisation (ACCHO), or a culturally appropriate alternative provider, or through successful tender applications. The department understands that some Medicare Locals sub-contracted or auspiced Aboriginal community controlled health organisations to deliver some of these services. The department is aware that at least six of the current PHNs sub-contract part of their service delivery to ACCHOs.

