

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-22 November 2013**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** National Mental Health Commission

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Jan McLucas

**Question reference number:** 24

**Type of Question:** Hansard

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 17 January 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator McLUCAS: Was the funding for the operation of the commission previously in PM&C's budget or was it in Health?

Ms McDevitt: It was previously part of the PM&C portfolio budget, but the budget was allocated to the commission itself, and it was up to the commission itself, pretty much, how they allocated their budget. So we did not have a day-to-day role in setting their budget.

Senator McLUCAS: And is it expected that that funding method will now move to Health?

Ms Cross: Yes. As far as I am aware it will be the same arrangement.

Senator McLUCAS: And how much was that, under the last allocation?

Ms Cross: We might have to take that on notice. We might be able to get it quickly, but I do not know that we have it at hand.

**Answer:**

The National Mental Health Commission (NMHC) is a separate agency to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C). The NMHC is appropriated directly.

Details of the NMHC's funding in the current year and across the forward estimates can be found on page 107 of the 2013-14 PM&C Portfolio Budget Statement.