

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
20 October 2015

Department/Agency: Department of Finance
Outcome/Program: 2/2.2
Topic: Australian Hearing scoping study – consultations

Senator: Cameron

Question reference number: F36

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Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator CAMERON: The further consultations were in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. Is that correct for those extra consultations?

Mr Edge: Yes, Senator, I think that is correct.

Senator CAMERON: Okay. Who attended those consultations?

Mr Edge: From Finance?

Senator CAMERON: No, stakeholders.

Ms Halton: We will have to take that on notice.

Answer:

On 8 May 2015, the Finance Minister announced that further consultations would be undertaken with stakeholders in the hearing impaired community on the findings of the scoping study and on the implications of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) on the future of funded hearing services.

Face-to-face sessions were held on 16 June 2015 (Canberra), 19 June 2015 (Sydney) and 22 June 2015 (Melbourne). Records taken on these days indicate the following stakeholders attended at least one of the sessions, noting that some stakeholders who were invited did not attend any of the sessions:

- Hearing Aid Audiometrist Society of Australia
- Canberra Deaf Children's Association
- Deafness Forum of Australia
- Australian Medical Association
- National Disability Services
- National Rural Health Alliance
- ACT Deafness Resource Centre
- The Shepherd Centre

- Australian Association of Audiologists in Private Practice
- Deaf Society of NSW
- Hear and Say
- Self Help for Hard of Hearing People
- Australian College of Audiology
- Aussie Deaf Kids
- Parents of Deaf Children
- Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children
- Audiology Australia
- Deaf Children Australia
- Children with Disability Australia
- Better Hearing Australia
- First Voice

The Deafness Council of WA participated via a separate teleconference on 2 July 2015.

The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (which also represents the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance) was invited but did not attend any of the sessions however, they were provided information and offered a separate briefing following the sessions.