

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 23 October 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000748

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: National Strategic Framework for Chronic Disease Conditions

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

- a) What progress has been made in the development of a National Strategic Framework for Chronic Disease Conditions?
- b) What are the elements of this Strategic Framework and how does it relate to the Indigenous Australians Health Programme?
- c) What funds have been allocated for the development of the National Strategic Framework and its implementation?

Answer:

- a) Work is currently underway to develop a National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions (the Framework), which will supersede its predecessor, the *National Chronic Disease Strategy 2005*. A Jurisdictional Working Group has been established under the Community Care and Population Health Principal Committee of the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) to work with the Commonwealth on this project.

On 10 June 2015 a Roundtable Workshop was held with a range of experts and consumer representatives to discuss the scope of the Framework. A first draft of the Framework has been the focus of national targeted consultations with key stakeholders conducted from September to mid November 2015. A total of 13 workshops have been held in 8 locations. Feedback from these consultations will inform a second draft of the Framework that will be available online for broader public consultation in early 2016.

The final Framework document, taking into account feedback from the online consultations, will be reviewed by the AHMAC and the Council of Australian Governments' Health Council. The Framework is expected to be available for public release in late 2016. An implementation plan will be developed following finalisation of the Framework.

- b) The draft Framework currently encompasses a broad vision underpinned by seven Principles and five Objectives. The Principles support a person-centred, life-course

approach, optimising interactions and influences between sectors and reducing health inequities. The Principles will guide activity to facilitate coordinated, integrated and multidisciplinary care, improve utilisation of primary health care organisations, and recognise patient needs across the continuum of care.

Five Objectives are identified in the Framework to address specific focus areas:

- Objective 1: Promote health and wellbeing and prevent chronic conditions;
- Objective 2: Promote timely and appropriate detection of chronic conditions;
- Objective 3: Provide effective and appropriate care for people with chronic conditions and optimise quality of life;
- Objective 4: Reduce the occurrence of complications related to chronic conditions; and
- Objective 5: Strengthen efforts to address chronic conditions in vulnerable populations.

All Objectives are relevant to Indigenous Australians, however, Objective 5 specifically addresses vulnerable populations, including Indigenous Australians. The Principles and Objectives of the Framework align with the Indigenous Australians' Health Programme (IAHP) as the IAHP includes a strong focus on the prevention, detection and management of chronic disease as a key driver of the life expectancy gap.

- c) On 5 June 2015, funding of \$150,000 was approved from the AHMAC cost-shared budget for the development of the Framework. Funding to implement the Framework has not been allocated at this stage.