

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Supplementary Estimates Hearing – October 2010

Outcome 1 , Program 1.1

Topic: National Health and Hospitals Network

Question reference number: F8

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA P96, Tuesday 19 October 2010

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Can I just follow up on some questions. Last time in relation to social policy, Mr Tune, we were discussing the National Funding Authority, which was one of the authorities that was part of the health reform package. We were in discussion on 26 May. It was quite spectacularly dumped shortly thereafter. On 26 May, when you and Mr de Carvalho gave evidence about it, were you aware that the authority was about to be dumped?

Mr de Carvalho—No, I was not aware at that stage.

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—Mr Tune, was anyone else in your department aware of this? Were you aware of it?

Mr Tune—No, I was not.

Senator FIERRAVANTI-WELLS—When did Finance first become aware that the authority was to be dumped?

Answer:

Finance became aware that the Commonwealth and states had discussed alternative arrangements for streamlining the payment of Commonwealth funds to Local Hospital Networks shortly after giving evidence to the Committee on 26 May. Finance was advised of this by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.