



## SENATOR DEBORAH O'NEILL

NEW SOUTH WALES SENATOR

4 October 2019

Ms Glenys Beauchamp PSM  
Secretary  
Department of Health  
Via email: [Glenys.Beauchamp@health.gov.au](mailto:Glenys.Beauchamp@health.gov.au)

Dear Secretary

I write regarding the upcoming Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing for the Health Portfolio.

To expedite proceedings on this occasion, I ask you to table the following information at the start of the hearing:

- **Cross-portfolio:** Please provide an updated list of Community Health and Hospitals Program grants, including the annual funding profile, status (contracted/under negotiation) and relevant outcome/program for each grant. Please also identify any announced grants that are not proceeding.
- **Program 1.1: Health Policy Research and Analysis**
  - Please provide an updated list of all Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) grants. For each grant, please include the MRFF stream, initiative and funding program; institution and project name; total funding amount and annual profile; and status (awarded/under negotiation). Please also identify any announced grants that are not proceeding.
  - Please provide an updated breakdown of MRFF funding, broken down by a) year for the next 10 years; b) MRFF streams, initiatives and programs; and c) within each stream, initiative and program, the amount of funding that is contracted, allocated and unallocated.

- Program 1.2: Health Innovation and Technology – Please provide updated figures on how many Australians have opted out of the My Health Record, and what participation rate this represents.
- Program 4.1: Medical Benefits – For each year from 2012-13 to 2018-19, and for a) Australia, b) each state and territory and c) each Commonwealth electoral division, please provide i) the GP bulk billing rate, ii) the percentage of patients who have all GP services bulk billed, iii) the average GP out-of-pocket charge and iv) the same information as i) to iii) for specialists.
- Program 4.3: Pharmaceutical Benefits – Please provide an updated list of Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) recommendations that have not yet been implemented. Please include all outstanding recommendations from the November 2013 PBAC meeting onwards, including all recommendations where sponsors have subsequently advised they are not proceeding.

I note that the Department has previously provided all of the requested information to Senators, and trust that you will be able to table updated information on 23 October. Please advise ahead of the hearing if this will not be possible for any of the requests above.

I look forward to seeing you at the hearing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Deborah O'Neill', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

DEBORAH O'NEILL  
**LABOR SENATOR FOR NSW**