

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2010-11, 23 February 2011

Question: E11-111

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: NATIONAL FUNDING POOL

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) What is the difference between the dumped National Funding Authority and the National Funding Pool?

Please outline the parameters of each including as to:

- b) Management structures.
- c) Responsibilities.
- d) Accountability.
- e) Funding
- f) Reporting framework.
- g) Commonwealth legislative requirements for their establishment of each body.
- h) State and territory legislative requirements for their establishment of each body.

Answer:

- a) Clause 15 of the National Health and Hospital Network Agreement envisaged the establishment of a National Funding Authority to oversee a National Health and Hospital Network Fund and the distribution of the Commonwealth funding contribution through the Fund to state funding authorities.

Under the clauses 13 to 18 of the Heads of Agreement – National Health Reform signed by Council of Australian Governments members on 13 February 2011 the National Funding Pool will hold Commonwealth and state funding within state accounts to be paid to Local Hospital Networks.

b - h)

As details of the structure and operation of the National Funding Pool will be included in the National Health Reform Agreement to be negotiated by 1 July 2011, it is not possible to answer these questions at this time.