

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015, 25 February 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000046

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Access to Allied Psychological Services (ATAPS)

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Wright, Penny

Question:

How will ATAPS be administered after the transition to Primary Health Networks occurs?

Answer:

The Government has announced a 12 month funding extension for frontline mental health services, including for ATAPS services.

Services delivered by Medicare Locals will, in most instances, transition to Primary Health Networks. During the transition year in 2015-16, Primary Health Networks would be required to deliver services under the same arrangements as for 2014-15.

The Department of Health will continue to work with Medicare Locals and Primary Health Networks, as they are established, to put processes in place to minimise the impact on all patients during the transition period and ensure continuity of service delivery.