

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015, 25 March 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000271

**OUTCOME:** 5 - Primary Health Care

**Topic:** Primary Health Networks - Federation White paper

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 34, 25 February 2015

**Senator:** Wright, Penny

**Question:**

Senator McLucas: What will be happening to the various Medicare Local premises? Can you give us some information about that?

Mr Booth: The actual premises?

Senator Wright: Yes.

Mr Booth: It will depend on the application process, because, as you know, some Medicare Locals will apply to become PHNs and, if they are successful, then there are certain things that could happen to the premises there. So it really depends on what the different processes are that happen. I will ask to get a bit more specific advice on that and let you know, because it is in the deeds and the frequently asked questions. So I will just get a bit of clarification on that.

**Answer:**

Medicare Locals are independent companies and as such it is up to the Medicare Local and their lessor, to determine the future use of the premises they lease to operate their business. Possible outcomes include that the lease may transfer to the Primary Health Network, the lease may be terminated, or the Medicare Local may renew their lease under a new company structure.