

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000453

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Mental Health Workforce

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: O'Neill, Deborah

Question:

Has the Department undertaken any mapping in relation to the mental health workforce? If yes, can the Department provide this mapping.

Answer:

The Department provides access to health workforce data to Primary Health Networks (PHNs) and other interested parties through the Department of Health's online data tabulation tool available at www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health_workforce_data. The tool allows users to develop their own tables and graphs using the National Health Workforce Dataset and Clinical Placements Dataset.

As data is only available on the 14 health professions regulated by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, the full breadth of the Australian mental health workforce is not known.