

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-048

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: EXPENDITURE FOR MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMMES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Adams asked:

How will the Department monitor expenditure under the Mental Health Programmes in the Budget to ensure that they reach people who live outside regional centres?

Answer:

Expenditure under each of the Mental Health programs announced in the 2011-12 Budget will be monitored through their implementation and ongoing operation in line with current Departmental processes.

This may not, however, include regional and rural reporting of expenditure by program, as it may not be feasible or could be prohibitive to collect data at such a level for some programs.

The impact of mental health programs on people residing outside regional centres will be determined through other program reporting mechanisms including evaluation, stakeholder consultation and more formal reports from organisations such as Medicare Locals.