

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 – 2 June 2015

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OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Expert Reference Group

Type of Question: Hansard Page 54, 1 June 2015

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

Minister, I wonder if you could answer the question. Minister Ley said in her press release that some of the recommendations are not conducive to a unified national approach. Which recommendations are not conducive to a unified national approach?

Answer:

The National Mental Health Commission's Final Report of the *Review of Mental Health Programmes and Services* presents an ambitious plan for broad, long term reform of the mental health system. This is a report to Government, not of Government, and while many of the Review recommendations offer positive ideas, they may require further investigation by experts, and targeted consultation with states and territories and the sector.

The Government is examining the Review's substantial content to develop a considered strategy and to ensure that the next steps taken deliver a genuine and unified national approach to reform.