

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 17 & 19 October 2012**

**Question: E12-219**

**OUTCOME 10: Health Systems, Capacity and Quality**

**Topic: ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE STANDING COMMITTEE**

**Type of Question: Written Question on Notice**

**Number of pages: 1**

**Senator: Senator Di Natale**

**Question:**

Does the Committee have any role (other than advisory) in actually implementing and coordinating a comprehensive national antimicrobial usage and resistance surveillance system? If the Committee has no such role, which Government Department or agency is tasked with coordinating a comprehensive national antimicrobial usage and resistance surveillance system? If the Committee does have a role in actually coordinating a comprehensive national antimicrobial usage and resistance surveillance system, what are the resource implications of this role for the Committee?

**Answer:**

The Committee provides a point for collaboration and coordination of antimicrobial resistance activities nationally. The Committee acts as a facilitator for a one-health approach to combating the issue of antimicrobial resistance in Australia by drawing together key stakeholders from a number of government departments, peak bodies, associations and colleges working in their various sectors to address antimicrobial resistance. The Committee's member organisations take up the task of implementation and coordination of antimicrobial resistance related programs in their relevant fields.