

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 22 October 2014

Ref No: SQ14-001372

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Helping Indigenous People Self-Manage their risk of Chronic Disease

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

What were the findings of the Institute of Urban Indigenous Health pilot Work it out healthy lifestyle support program? Have these been implemented?

Answer:

The Institute of Urban Indigenous Health's (IUIH) Work It Out program was set up using one-off funding provided by the Department of Health over the two years of 2012-13 and 2013-14. The IUIH and its member services continue to deliver the programme from a mix of Medicare revenue and member contributions.

The IUIH has been evaluating the programme and results provided to the Department to date suggest that it has had positive impacts on health in the short to medium term, noting that the number of participants is relatively small. Changes included reductions in blood pressure, blood glucose, weight and waist/hip measurements, as well as improved social and emotional wellbeing. To-date, no recommendations arising from the evaluation have been provided to the Department.