

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 21 October 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000827

**OUTCOME:** 0 - Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** Machinery of Government (MoG)

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

**Senator:** Polley, Helen

**Question:**

- a) Please outline the process for undertaking the transfer from DSS to DoH?
- b) What is the time frame that has been established?
- c) Please outline what has been achieved to date and what has yet to be undertaken?

**Answer:**

- a) The department is working closely and collaboratively with the Department of Social Services to implement the Machinery of Government (MoG) changes in accordance with the Commonwealth's legislative framework and guidance from the Department of Finance and the Australian Public Service Commission as set out in the Implementing Machinery of Government Changes Third Edition September 2015 available on the internet at <http://www.apsc.gov.au/publications-and-media/current-publications/machinery-of-government>
- b) The transfer of staff and funding were completed by the mid-November 2015 timeframe.
- c) Staff transferred to Health under s72 (1) of the Public Service Act 1999 on 5 November 2015. The transfer of funding to Health under s75 of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 was completed on 13 November 2015.

Property and ICT arrangements will be finalised over the coming months due to the large number of affected staff located across Australia and IT and business system requirements associated with the transferring functions.

Transition arrangements are being put in place between the two agencies to ensure appropriate support for affected staff and continuity of service and operation for the programmes transferred under the MoG changes.