



Health

H14/69381

Mr Stewart Smith  
Committee Director  
Room 812, Legislative Council  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Smith

I refer to evidence given at the Estimates hearing before General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 for the Health and Medical Research portfolios on 18 August 2014 and wish to promptly bring to your attention a matter in the interests of clarity and transparency.

Following the evidence given at that hearing, it has been brought to my attention that in April this year some rudimentary scenarios were developed within a branch of the Ministry of Health relating to potential impacts on emergency departments arising from the introduction of a GP co-payment. This work was as a consequence of the contemporaneous public discussion concerning GP co-payments, it was done at branch officer level and involved broad preliminary estimations only, noting the absence of any firm or detailed proposals on the subject. I was unaware of this work at the time of giving my evidence.

I confirm that there has been no detailed modelling undertaken by the NSW Ministry of Health on the likely impacts of introduction of a GP co-payment subsequent to the announcement of such a co-payment in the Federal budget in May 2014.

Yours sincerely

Dr Mary Foley  
Secretary, NSW Health

18. 8. 14

NSW Ministry of Health

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