

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11 - 245

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: HEADSPACE - INDIVIDUAL SERVICES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Was consideration given to the relative activities, coverage and potential growth of individual headspace services in determining funding levels.

Answer:

headspace, consistent with its independent company status, allocates funding to service sites for establishment and operational funding within the total Australian Government funding for the project. headspace determine the level of funding for each site taking into account factors such as population, catchment size, occasions of service and number of young people seen, regionality and market rental rates.

The 2011-12 Budget allocated \$197.3 million over five years, on top of a current commitment of \$133.3 million to 2013-14, to expand existing and establish new youth focused mental health services through the headspace program. Specifically, the 2011 Budget measure provides funding for 90 fully sustainable headspace sites across Australia by 2014-15. This will be achieved through boosting funding to the 30 current and 10 developing headspace sites and ensuring a robust funding base for the further 50 sites to be established by 2014-15.

Importantly, the 2011-12 Budget measure was costed on the basis of headspace's own business case to Government for additional funding.