

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2013-14, 5/6 & 7 June 2013

Question: E13-219

OUTCOME: 8 - Indigenous Health

Topic: Stronger Futures

Type of Question: Hansard Page 23, 7 June 2013

Senator: Siewert

Question:

What I would like to know, under the health components: the breakdown of the programs, and what the funding has been for each of those as far as possible. The gross figures I have do not give any indication of that or any indication of what is going to be on target and what is not.

Answer:

There are seven Health elements of the Stronger Futures Package, as follows:

- Stronger Indigenous Health Services;
- Remote Area Health Corps;
- Structural Reform of Health Services;
- Hearing Health Program;
- Oral Health Program;
- Alcohol Management Plans; and
- Mobile Outreach Service Plus.

A table listing the seven Health elements and their budgets for 2012-13 is provided at Attachment A. The response provided to Question on Notice E13-220 lists the Health elements and progress against their annual targets.

Attachment A

Component	Description	2012-13 (\$m)
<i>NT Government responsibility through Special Purpose Payments</i>		
Hearing health services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An integrated hearing health program with capacity to reach children under 16 in NT remote communities (funds audiology checks and services). A community ear disease prevention and education program will begin in 2013-14. 	2.4
Oral health services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An integrated oral health program to fund clinical outreach services across the NT for children under 16 years of age with a focus on prevention (includes a fluoride varnish and fissure seals program). 	2.3
Mobile Outreach Service Plus (MOS Plus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the MOS Plus which provides therapeutic counselling and support to Aboriginal children and their families and communities for trauma related to any form of child abuse and neglect. 	4.3
<i>Commonwealth Own Purpose Expenditure</i>		
Mobile Outreach Service Plus (MOS Plus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the MOS Plus which provides therapeutic counselling and support to Aboriginal children and their families and communities for trauma related to any form of child abuse and neglect. 	0.4
Stronger Indigenous Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continues funding of Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) and NT Government (NTG) to deliver primary health care services (medical, nursing and allied health). 	33.3
Structural Reform of Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continues the reform of the primary health care sector in the NT to ensure efficient, sustainable primary health care. 	0.9
Remote Area Health Corps (RAHC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continues funding for a locum service that delivers professional placements to help meet workforce shortages in remote locations. A two year Funding Agreement was executed with the current provider of the RAHC, Aspen Medical. 	5.9
Alcohol misuse services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This new program will provide 20 new alcohol and other drug abuse workers. Implementation arrangements are being formulated. 	0.7
Hearing health services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An integrated hearing health program with capacity to reach children under 16 in NT remote communities (funds audiology checks and services). A community ear disease prevention and education program will begin in 2013-14. 	0.3
Oral health services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An integrated oral health program to fund clinical outreach services across the NT for children under 16 years of age with a focus on prevention (includes a fluoride varnish and fissure seals program). 	1.2
Total Administered*:		51.7
DoHA Total Departmental*:		3.1
TOTAL (incl. Departmental)*:		54.8