

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11 - 239

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: COSTS FOR HEADSPACE SITES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

In relation to each of the 30 new headspace sites announced in the 2010-11 Budget, please advise:

- a) The date each is to be established
- b) The costs of establishment
- c) The annual projected running costs
- d) The funding allocated to each site
- e) Who made decision in relation to the location of each site.

Refer page 56 Hansard 30 May

Answer:

- a) The 2010-11 Budget provided funds for the delivery of up to 30 new headspace services. The new sites were to be established in a phased approach, with up to 10 established in 2010-11, up to a further 15 established in 2011-12, and up to five established in 2012-13. The locations for the first 10 new sites were announced by the Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon Nicola Roxon MP, on 24 July 2010 and the lead agencies to operate headspace services at the locations were announced by the Minister for Mental Health and Ageing, the Hon Mark Butler MP, on 14 April 2011. It is expected that all 10 sites will be providing services to young people by December 2011.

The 2011-12 Budget provided for a significant scale up of headspace, supplementing the 2010-11 Budget measure with an additional \$197.3 million over five years to put all current and future sites on a sustainable funding footing and to achieve national coverage of the model through a phased implementation of a total of 90 sites across the country.

The 2011-12 measure builds on and supersedes the 2010-11 expansion measure and will deliver 15 new headspace sites in each of the three years between 2011-12 and 2013-14 and a further five new sites in 2014-15.

b), c) and d)

headspace, consistent with its independent company status, allocates funding to service sites for establishment and ongoing annual funding within the total Australian Government funding allocated for the program.

The 10 new headspace sites being established now as a result of the 2010-11 Budget measure are being provided with \$300,000 for establishment costs. The Department understands this level of funding for establishment will also be provided to all future sites following the 2011-12 Budget.

After receiving additional funds in the 2010-11 Budget, headspace took a more 'site sensitive' approach to funding allocations and the existing 30 sites have seen their operational funding increase with a range of \$490,000 - \$688,000 per annum depending on their population, catchment size, number of young people seen and occasions of service, regionality and market rental rates.

As a result of the 2011-12 Budget measure to expand the headspace model, from 2011-12 headspace has determined that all current and future sites' annual funding will vary for each site according to the factors above, but will be an average of \$842,000 per annum.

e) Refer to answer provided to E11-235.