

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015, 25 February 2015

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OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: headspace Sites

Type of Question: Hansard Page 45, 25 February 2015

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

Senator McLucas: I want to go, first of all, to the headspace sites, please. Could you give me an update Mr Booth about the 10 new headspaces, please?

Mr Booth: At a high level, you will be aware that there is an intent around 100 headspace sites. So there was an election commitment around 10 additional headspace sites. There are currently 76 operational centres across the country. As you know, it is being done in rounds. Seventy of those were from the first five rounds. There are then six from round 6. We are working our through round 6 and then heading into round 7 and round 8. The intent is still to have the centres operational just as soon as we can. Those are the sites. Did you want to go into detail about -

Senator McLucas: Could you provide, on notice, which ones are not yet operational.

Mr Booth: You want me to go through and say where we are up to in terms of each one, and what is happening and that kind of thing?

Senator McLucas: Yes

Mr Booth: Yes, we can do that

Senator McLucas: Is it reasonable to ask you if there are reasons they are not operational. Is it because headspace has not contracted to another agency, or could not find a block of land or whatever?

Mr Booth: I think there are a variety of reasons as to why it is taking some time. Having said that, rounds 1 to 5 are all up and running. We are moving there. We are heading through round 6, which was the 2013 announcement. I think it is fair to say that headspace - who are at the end of the day go out and set the centres up - are working through them as quickly as they can. I do not think there is a single reason I could give you that says, 'There is a problem here'.

Senator McLucas: I suppose what I am asking is: for this particular location, if it is not operational, can you give me a sentence that says why?

Answer:

Since 25 February 2015 four more centres have become operational. The following four centres and one outpost are currently delayed.

Centre	Reason for delay
Bondi Junction	Delay in identifying suitable facilities for the new centre.
Toowoomba	Delay in identifying suitable facilities for the new centre, and will open in an interim site in mid to late April.
Armadale	Delay in executing contract with lead agency in this location and finding suitable facilities for the new centre.
Adelaide	Delay caused by difficulty in finding a suitable lead agency to operate both the headspace centre and the new Early Psychosis Youth Services.
Lakehaven (outpost)	Delay caused by issues with the facilities.