

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016, 10 February 2016**

**Ref No:** SQ16-000050

**OUTCOME:** 0 - Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** Flexible Funds

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Gallagher, Katy

**Question:**

On what basis was the decision not to fund Arthritis Australia made?

**Answer:**

The Health Peak and Advisory Bodies Programme is a new programme that funds community organisations for activities that support national secretariat functions, consultation with members on policy and programme issues, information sharing on health policy, and the provision of informed and impartial advice to the Australian Government.

The Arthritis Foundation of Australia submitted an application for funding under the open competitive tender process for the Health Peak and Advisory Bodies Programme, which was subsequently assessed in accordance with best practice against the following criteria:

- eligibility for funding;
- alignment of the organisation's objectives with those of the programme and the Australian Government's health agenda;
- the organisation's capacity to contribute to the objectives of the programme;
- the organisation's risk management plan;
- an outline of programme activities that the organisation will deliver and the expected outcomes of the grant funding; and
- the organisation's proposed budget.

The application was deemed as not suitable for funding on the basis that the proposed activities did not align with the programme's objectives.

The department advised the organisation of the outcome of its application on 20 November 2015.