

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

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

**Ref No:** SQ16-000289

**OUTCOME:** 0 - Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** Flexible Funds

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 22, 10 February 2016

**Senator:** Gallagher, Katy

**Question:**

Senator GALLAGHER: Yes, I do. I have some questions around the flexible funds. At last October's estimates it wasn't entirely clear where all the changes and reductions in expenditure were going to flow through. I have gone back and had a look at the questions on notice and your evidence, Mr Bowles. Can you update the committee now?

Mr Bowles: I could probably do that on notice, Senator, to give you an updated answer to specifics. I think I gave you a table on notice—

**Answer:**

The discussion referenced in Hansard reflects two savings measures that apply, the:

1. May 2014 decision *Health Flexible Funds: Pausing indexation and achieving efficiencies*, \$197.1 million over three years from 2015-16; and the
2. 2015-16 *Rationalising and Streamlining Health Programmes* measure, \$596.2 million over four years from 1 July 2015.

The attached table reflects the funds after these savings measures have been applied.

### Flexible Fund Balances Pre 2016-17 Budget

Description	2016- 2017 \$'000	2017- 2018 \$'000	2018- 2019 \$'000	2019- 2020 \$'000	Total over 4 years \$'000
Chronic Disease Prevention and Service Improvement Grants	46,463	41,215	39,396	40,026	167,100
Communicable Disease Prevention and Service Improvement Grants	14,068	13,862	12,895	13,101	53,926
Health Protection Fund	54,621	53,045	15,722	15,973	139,361
Health Social Surveys Fund	5,988	5,740	6,084	6,181	23,993
Health Surveillance Fund	15,956	15,508	14,717	14,953	61,134
Health System Capacity Development Fund	18,950	18,321	19,239	19,547	76,057
Health Workforce Fund	1,048,710	1,080,502	1,065,367	1,078,390	4,272,969
Indigenous Australians' Health Programme	786,461	850,267	885,148	922,700	3,444,576
Practice Incentives for General Practices	380,559	383,213	370,801	377,104	1,511,677
Quality Use of Diagnostics Therapeutics and Pathology Fund	44,947	43,614	42,280	42,280	173,121
Regionally tailored primary care initiatives through Primary Health Networks Fund	352,800	273,430	264,885	269,123	1,160,238
Single Initial Point of Contact Telephone Advice and Counselling	40,605	39,190	43,568	44,265	167,628
Substance Misuse Prevention and Service Improvement Grants	26,703	26,114	26,887	27,769	107,473
Substance Misuse Service Delivery Grants	43,301	32,995	35,182	35,780	147,258
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,880,132</b>	<b>2,877,016</b>	<b>2,842,171</b>	<b>2,907,192</b>	<b>11,506,511</b>