

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000015

**OUTCOME:** 4 - Individual Health Benefits

**Topic:** MBS Review and MSAC Process

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 28, 1 March 2017

**Senator:** Di Natale, Richard

**Question:**

for the Medical Services Advisory Committee together, and we do not have a forward split as to how much is for each purpose. But we could, if you want us to take on notice what the split is—but it is the \$34 million for both together.

Senator DI NATALE: And you have not decided how you are going to spend the rest of it? How much of it has been spent so far?

Ms Jolly: Can we take that on notice, and we will give you the breakdown of what has been spent on the committee.

Mr Bowles: The two issues are run largely together. That is the issue. The whole MSAC process and the MBS review obviously link.

Senator DI NATALE: They are being run together. So, perhaps on notice: how much has been spent so far in each area and what does the prospective split into the future look like?

Ms Jolly: I am happy to do that.

**Answer:**

The 2015-16 Budget provided \$34.3 million over two years for the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Review and the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) activity, comprising \$28.6 million in Administered funding and \$5.7 million in Departmental funding.

As at 1 March 2017, total Administered expenditure for the MBS Review and MSAC was \$15.2 million. The MBS Review expenditure was \$8.2 million and the expenditure for the MSAC activity was \$7.0 million.

The forward splits depend on activity levels in each area. It is important to note that MSAC is a demand driven program with its expenditure dependent on both the number and complexity of health technology assessments undertaken.