

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

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

**Ref No:** SQ17-000048

**OUTCOME:** 2 - Health Access and Support Services

**Topic:** Suicide Prevention Trial Sites

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 75, 1 March 2017

**Senator:** O'Neill, Deborah

**Question:**

Senator O'NEILL: I would like anything you can add, on notice, about why there was a delay in that being announced—about why it was February with the new minister. I would also like to get an update on the 31 Primary Health Networks and the work they are doing with regard to commissioning mental health services, as well as funding arrangements that are currently in place.

Ms Cole: Are you looking for a description of what each of them is up to?

Senator O'NEILL: Yes, can you provide the amount of funding each PHN receives for community-based mental health programs and services.

Ms Cole: Yes, we can provide that to you on notice.

Senator O'NEILL: Of course, by PHN on notice if you can. Thank you very much.

Ms Cole: Yes.

Senator O'NEILL: Can you provide the amount of funding for each PHN with regard to suicide prevention programs and services.

Ms Cole: Yes, we can provide that.

**Answer:**

The announcement schedule for the 12 suicide prevention trial sites was determined by Government. As a part of its commitment to *Strengthen Mental Health Care in Australia*, the Australian Government announced Brisbane North, North Coast, North Western Melbourne, and Perth South Primary Health Networks (PHNs) as mental health lead sites focusing on suicide prevention. The Government also announced Tasmania and regional South Australia as additional suicide prevention trial sites.

In August 2016, the Prime Minister announced Townsville, Queensland and the Kimberley, Western Australia as two additional suicide prevention trial sites. In February 2017, the Minister for Health and Minister for Sport, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, announced Western New South Wales; the Central Queensland, Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast region; Darwin, Northern Territory; and Mid-West, Western Australia as the four remaining suicide prevention trial sites.

The Australian Government has allocated funding to 31 Primary Health Networks (PHNs) to lead mental health and suicide prevention planning at a regional level. PHNs are commissioning mental health and suicide prevention services across the following priority areas:

- 1) low intensity mental health services;
- 2) child and youth mental health services;
- 3) psychological therapies for people in under-serviced and/or hard to reach populations;
- 4) clinical care coordination for people with severe and complex mental illness;
- 5) suicide prevention; and
- 6) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health services.

Further details on each PHN's planned mental health and suicide prevention activities are available in the PHN's Primary Mental Health Care Activity Work Plan. Activity Work Plans are published on individual PHN websites which can be accessed from [www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/PHN-Contacts](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/PHN-Contacts).

PHNs also provide the department with details of their commissioning activities in regular performance reports. The latest performance reports are due by the end of April 2017.

PHNs are receiving the following funding amounts for mental health and suicide prevention services as part of the primary mental health care flexible funding pool:

<b>NATIONAL SUMMARY - PHN FUNDING</b>	<b>2016-17 (\$m)</b>	<b>2016-17 (\$m)</b>	<b>2016-17 (\$m)</b>	<b>2017-18 (\$m)</b>	<b>2017-18 (\$m)</b>	<b>2017-18 (\$m)</b>
<b>PHN NAME</b>	<b>Mental Health</b>	<b>Suicide Prevention</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Mental Health</b>	<b>Suicide Prevention</b>	<b>TOTAL*</b>
Central and Eastern Sydney	13.68	0.71	<b>14.39</b>	15.40	0.73	<b>16.13</b>
Northern Sydney	6.32	0.34	<b>6.66</b>	7.23	0.35	<b>7.58</b>
Western Sydney	14.11	0.90	<b>15.01</b>	11.43	0.54	<b>11.97</b>
Nepean Blue Mountains	4.62	0.23	<b>4.85</b>	4.27	0.24	<b>4.51</b>
South Western Sydney	10.10	0.61	<b>10.70</b>	11.70	0.62	<b>12.33</b>
South Eastern NSW	8.65	0.48	<b>9.13</b>	9.35	0.49	<b>9.84</b>
Western NSW	9.57	0.61	<b>10.17</b>	10.71	0.61	<b>11.32</b>
Hunter New England & Central Coast	17.87	1.14	<b>19.00</b>	19.23	1.16	<b>20.39</b>
North Coast	11.14	0.36	<b>11.49</b>	11.38	0.57	<b>11.95</b>
Murrumbidgee	5.97	0.26	<b>6.23</b>	6.40	0.27	<b>6.66</b>
North Western Melbourne	16.84	0.79	<b>17.63</b>	17.73	0.81	<b>18.54</b>
Eastern Melbourne	15.03	0.60	<b>15.64</b>	12.67	0.62	<b>13.29</b>
South Eastern Melbourne	22.86	0.66	<b>23.52</b>	15.44	0.68	<b>16.12</b>
Gippsland	3.87	0.21	<b>4.08</b>	4.57	0.22	<b>4.79</b>
Murray	12.95	0.49	<b>13.44</b>	10.97	0.50	<b>11.47</b>
Western Victoria	9.64	0.39	<b>10.03</b>	9.22	0.40	<b>9.62</b>
Brisbane North	11.59	0.51	<b>12.10</b>	12.79	0.52	<b>13.31</b>
Brisbane South	12.67	0.64	<b>13.30</b>	13.05	0.65	<b>13.70</b>
Gold Coast	8.33	0.28	<b>8.61</b>	5.84	0.29	<b>6.13</b>
Darling Downs and West Moreton	9.28	0.52	<b>9.79</b>	10.25	0.53	<b>10.78</b>
Western Queensland	3.85	0.29	<b>4.14</b>	4.21	0.30	<b>4.51</b>
Central Queensland & Sunshine Coast	11.34	0.71	<b>12.05</b>	13.24	0.73	<b>13.97</b>
Northern Queensland	18.95	1.45	<b>20.40</b>	19.69	1.47	<b>21.16</b>
Adelaide	13.14	0.70	<b>13.83</b>	13.63	0.71	<b>14.35</b>
Country SA	11.17	0.59	<b>11.76</b>	12.10	0.60	<b>12.70</b>
Perth North	16.01	0.52	<b>16.53</b>	12.01	0.53	<b>12.54</b>
Perth South	10.39	0.55	<b>10.94</b>	11.69	0.56	<b>12.25</b>
Country WA	16.21	1.14	<b>17.34</b>	17.54	1.15	<b>18.70</b>
Tasmania	9.62	0.58	<b>10.20</b>	10.69	0.59	<b>11.28</b>
Northern Territory	13.66	1.41	<b>15.06</b>	13.70	1.42	<b>15.12</b>
Australian Capital Territory	5.22	0.17	<b>5.39</b>	5.40	0.18	<b>5.58</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>354.62</b>	<b>18.81</b>	<b>373.43</b>	<b>353.54</b>	<b>19.02</b>	<b>372.57</b>

\* \$10 million was withheld from PHN's 2017-18 allocation as contingency for any future unforeseen requirements.

Note. While funding amounts are allocated to suicide prevention, the funds are part of the primary mental health care flexible funding pool and PHNs have the flexibility to use funds based on their regional needs.

