

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

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

**Ref No:** SQ17-000049

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

**Topic:** Suicide Prevention

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 76, 1 March 2017

**Senator:** O'Neill, Deborah

**Question:**

Senator O'NEILL: Is the amount for suicide prevention programs and services for each PHN additional to the general mental health funds?

Ms Cole: It is a part of the general mental health funds—those numbers that we gave you earlier, the \$373 million.

Mr Cormack: We will provide you with a detailed breakdown on notice.

Senator O'NEILL: I would appreciate it if you can, because there seems to be a bit of double counting in the way everything is done. I am certainly not getting any clarity about what exactly is there, and what is additional.

Mr Bowles: It is because everything is called 'suicide prevention', but there are different funds into different projects.

Mr Cormack: That is right. Some is pre-existing and some is new as part of the election commitments. We will provide you with a breakdown that identifies which stuff is new and which stuff is pre-existing.

**Answer:**

On 26 November 2015 the Australian Government released its response to the National Mental Health Commission's Review of Mental Health Programmes and Services. This response outlined the Government's commitment to support national suicide prevention activity and regional suicide prevention activity led by Primary Health Networks. On 26 June 2016 the Government announced additional funding for 12 suicide prevention trial sites, an evaluation of the trial sites, and a Suicide Prevention Research Fund.

The Australian Government has allocated the following funding for suicide prevention:

<b>Activity/project</b>	<b>2016-17 (\$m)</b>	<b>2017-18 (\$m)</b>	<b>2018-19 (\$m)</b>	<b>2019-20 (\$m)</b>	<b>Total (\$m)</b>
Primary Health Networks – suicide prevention (existing) <sup>#</sup>	17.3 <sup>#</sup>	17.7 <sup>#</sup>	0.0	0.0	35.0
National suicide prevention activity (existing)	16.3	18.0	18.0	0.0	52.3
National Suicide Prevention Trial (new)	12.0	12.0	12.0	0.0	36.0 <sup>*</sup>
National Suicide Prevention Trial evaluation (new)	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	3.0
Suicide Prevention Research Fund (new)	1.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	12.0
<b>Total<sup>##</sup></b>	<b>47.7</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>138.5</b>

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<sup>#</sup> Currently contracted to PHNs – similar amounts expected in 2018-19 and 2019-20

<sup>\*</sup> Includes additional \$2 million allocated from within existing resources to enable all sites to receive up to \$1 million per year over three years.

<sup>##</sup> Totals do not add due to roundings.