

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000361

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Alcohol and Other Drugs

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

Without access to appropriate medical treatment, support and rehabilitation, many ice users end up in prison – given the high rates of incarceration of Indigenous Australians in custody, how has the Ice Strategy worked in keeping young Indigenous offenders out of prison and into treatment services?

Answer:

Provision of drug and alcohol treatment services, including treatment within correctional facilities, is the primary responsibility of state and territory governments.

The Australian Government's contribution to the National Ice Action Strategy includes funding of \$78.6 million for Indigenous specific drug and alcohol treatment services. Primary Health Networks can use funding to commission a range of evidence based drug and alcohol treatment options based on local need and priorities in their region.