Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-237

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: 30 HEADSPACE SITES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

In relation to each of the original 30 sites, please advise:

a) the date each was established;
b) the costs of establishment;
c) the annual running costs since it was established;
d) the funding allocated to each site since it was established; and
e) who made the decision in relation to the location of each site.

Answer:

a) The *Independent Evaluation of headspace: the National Youth Mental Health Foundation* Report 2009 lists, at Appendix C, headspace sites by opening date. The report is publicly available on the headspace website at: www.headspace.org.au

b), c) and d)
The funding level provided to establish new headspace sites is determined by the headspace company. headspace, consistent with its independent company status, allocates funding to service sites for establishment and operating funding within the total Australian Government funding allocated for the project.

Initially headspace chose to provide the original 30 sites with the same amount of operational funding (approximately $450,000 per annum). After receiving additional funds in the 2010-11 Budget, headspace has taken a more 'site sensitive' approach to funding allocations and the existing 30 sites have seen their operational funding increase within a range of $490,000 - $688,000 per annum depending on their population, catchment size, number of young people seen and occasions of service, regionality and market rental rates.

As a result of the 2011-12 Budget measure to expand the headspace model, from 2011-12 headspace has determined that all current and future sites' annual funding will vary for each site according to the factors above but will be on average $842,000 per annum.

Also refer to the answer provided to question E11-499.

e) Refer to the answer provided to question E11-235.