

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 31 May 2011

Question: E11-567

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: NATIONAL BINGE DRINKING STRATEGY

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Senator Boyce asked:

When are they going to transit and what is the plan? Also as to the likely timetable around the various bits.

Answer:

In line with the government's commitment in this area, implementation of the measures comprising the \$50 million 2010-11 Expansion of the National Binge Drinking Strategy (NBDS) is being led by the Australian National Preventive Health Agency (ANPHA). These include:

- \$25 million for a community sponsorship fund to provide an alternative to alcohol industry sponsorship for local community sporting and cultural organisations;
- \$20 million for community grants programs that aim to prevent and reduce binge drinking by young people; and
- \$5 million for the enhancement of alcohol helplines.

The \$50 million NBDS Expansion Fund has been transferred to ANPHA. ANPHA is progressing and finalising the implementation of these measures. The Community Sponsorship Fund Guidelines are being prepared; the Enhancement of Telephone Counselling tender process closed on 17 June 2011; and the Community Level Initiatives, Community Grants Round Three was announced by the Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon Nicola Roxon MP, and advertised in national papers on Saturday, 6 August 2011.