

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2013-14, 5/6 & 7 June 2013

Question: E13- 188

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Care

Topic: Medicare Locals - Funding

Type of Question: Hansard Page 14, 6 June 2013

Senator: Fierravanti-Wells

Question:

How are the \$573 million and the \$394 million funding figures until 30 June 2013 derived? In particular, what is the dollar amount of core funding, flexible funding, and after hours activities allocated for use by Medicare Locals through the *Regionally Tailored Primary Health Care Initiatives through Medicare Locals Fund* from 2010-11 to 2012-13?

Answer:

The \$573 million figure is the sum of core, and all other program funding to Medicare Locals in 2011-12 and 2012-13, as at 6 June 2013. A breakdown is provided in the following table:

	2011-12 (GST exclusive)	2012-13 (GST exclusive)	Total (GST exclusive)
Core and program funding to Medicare Locals	\$117.7 million	\$455.6 million	\$573.3 million

The \$394 million figure is the total amount of funding allocated to the Regionally Tailored Primary Health Care Initiatives through Medicare Locals Fund (BRE 734) for 2012-13. This funding is allocated for core, flexible, and after hours activities to Medicare Locals. In addition, this funding is used for national infrastructure activities to support Medicare Locals in achieving their strategic objectives such as eHealth activities and support for the Australian Medicare Local Alliance. The total funding provided under the Medicare Locals Fund over three years from 2010-11 is shown in the following table:

	2010-11(\$m) (GST exclusive)	2011-12(\$m) (GST exclusive)	2012-13(\$m) (GST exclusive)
Core funding	\$8.9	\$56.3	\$216.8
Flexible funding	\$0	\$0	\$62.4
After hours activities (consolidates <i>afterhours GP Helpline</i> , Fast Track After Hours and General Practice After Hours Programs)	\$18.0	\$46.8	\$76.5
Other program funding and national infrastructure activities including the AML Alliance	\$4.3	\$113.4	\$38.6
TOTAL ALLOCATIONS	\$31.2	\$216.5	\$394.3