

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 May 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000558

**OUTCOME:** 4 - Individual Health Benefits

**Topic:** Medicare Benefits Schedule review and the MSAC process

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 78, 29 May 2017

**Senator:** Watt, Murray

**Question:**

Mr Simpson: In terms of administered spending it is about \$10 million for the two years so far, but there are some contracts and other deliverables that will be finalised over the next couple of months of this financial year.

Senator WATT: So \$10 million of that \$34.3 million is administered?

Mr Simpson: Sorry, \$10 million of the allocation to the MBS review component, not the MSAC component.

Senator WATT: Yes. I was going to ask you if you could break that down, that \$34.3 million. Could you break it down between the MBS review and the MSAC process?

Ms Jolly: Yes, we can do that.

Senator WATT: You do not have those figures handy?

Ms Jolly: I do. I have some figures to date, so obviously the year is not yet finished. Mr Simpson mentioned the \$10 million that it breaks into. In 2015-16 there was \$3.9 million under the MBS review and in 2016-17 there was \$6.15 million in the MBS review. In the Medical Services Advisory Committee there was \$3.5 million in 2015-16 and \$4.1 million in 2016-17.

Senator WATT: Are they all the allocations to the department?

Ms Jolly: That is the administered expenditure.

Senator WATT: Administered, right. So that is external to people outside the department?

Ms Jolly: That is correct.

Senator WATT: Okay—I think I interrupted—and the remainder is to the department?

Ms Jolly: I do not have separately here the departmental.

Senator WATT: Okay. Perhaps if you could take that on notice for us as well.

**Answer:**

Please refer to the response provided to Question on Notice SQ17-000776.