

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 30 May 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000605

**OUTCOME:** 2 - Health Access and Support Services

**Topic:** Mental Health Funding Kimberley Region

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 26, 30 May 2017

**Senator:** Sterle, Glenn

**Question:**

Senator STERLE: How much is that money? How much will the Kimberley get out of that \$84 million?

Ms Cole: That breakdown, because it is for country Western Australia, I have to get for you on notice because it is a subset of the overall funding—

Senator STERLE: Okay. Are you in a position to tell me how much country Western Australia will get as a total?

Ms Cole: For those two components?

Senator STERLE: Yes.

Ms Cole: I will have to have a look. I may be able to get it for you later, Senator, rather than—

Senator STERLE: I am of the opinion, Ms Cole, that it is always easier if you can do it now, to save you going back and having to beaver away—you know how it all works. But if you cannot, I accept that.

Ms Cole: I understand that, Senator, but I may not have that level of detail.

Senator STERLE: I have been around estimates for a couple of weeks now, so I do understand how hard it can be for you people to provide all the info, for a myriad of reasons. So I am saying that, if you have to take it on notice, I understand. But if you have got it there, that would be great.

Ms Cole: The country WA PHN, which is the relevant PHN, is receiving in 2017-18, \$18.7 million for mental health, which includes \$0.5 million for community suicide prevention and \$0.62 million for Indigenous suicide prevention. So that is the overall bucket that they have. Then they are using a formula of around 20 per cent for the Kimberley region of their total amounts of funding.

Senator STERLE: So about \$200,000-odd?

Ms Cole: Ongoing, yes.

Senator STERLE: Yes, per year.

Ms Cole: So that is only their specific suicide prevention money. They also have their mental health money—so 20 per cent of their mental health money—and their community suicide money as well.

Senator STERLE: So, to save me adding up, how much is the whole package going to the Kimberley following on from the two roundtables?

Ms Cole: That is where I will have to go back and do the sums for you.

Senator STERLE: If you can find that out for me. Just bear with me, because you have answered a lot of the questions that I have had written out. So there is a working group now, is there not?

**Answer:**

The Country WA Primary Health Network (PHN) will receive \$3 million for the Kimberley National Suicide Prevention Trial over three years (2016-17 to 2018-19).

The Country WA PHN also receives funding under the PHN Primary Mental Health Care Schedule for mental health and suicide prevention services. The Country WA PHN has advised that it has allocated \$4.6 million in funding to mental health and suicide prevention services in the Kimberley region in 2017-18. This includes \$575,000 specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health.