

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-430

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: HEALTHY SPACES AND PLACES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Macdonald asked:

Will the Federal Government be committing the second stage of funding for the Healthy Places and Spaces initiative between the National Heart Foundation of Australia, the Planning Institute of Australia and the Australian Local Government Association?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Ageing provided the Healthy Spaces and Places partnership with \$710,000 in 2008-09 to develop a web-based planning guide. The website was launched in August 2009 and includes practical tools, case studies and guidelines to provide guidance to planning and design practitioners and related professions (working in state and local government and the private sector) on how to incorporate active living principles into the built environment.

Using \$93,024 in surplus funds from the 2008-09 agreement, the Department of Health and Ageing entered into a new agreement with the Planning Institute of Australia in May 2010 to enable the partnership to promote, evaluate and update the Healthy Spaces and Places website. This agreement is due to conclude on 31 March 2011.

Whilst no further funding has been committed specifically for the Healthy Spaces and Places project, the Government is providing \$872.1 million over six years to preventive health through the National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health, including \$71.8 million over the next four years for the Healthy Communities initiative. This includes the Australian Government providing funding to local governments to deliver effective community-based physical activity and healthy eating programs as well as develop a range of local policies to support healthy lifestyle behaviours. Outcomes may include adaptations to local regulations concerning the built environment, food and catering policies as well as the development of generic healthy lifestyle policies.