

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 21 October 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000721

**OUTCOME:** 1 - Population Health

**Topic:** Drug Enforcement Budget

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Di Natale, Richard

**Question:**

- a) Drugs – what sums are they putting into treatment and prevention out of the \$1.7bn drug enforcement budget?
- b) Can they confirm it's around 22% for treatment and 9% for prevention?
- c) Have they done any cost benefit analysis of the balance being spent on enforcement?

**Answer:**

- a) In 2015-16, the Department of Health is providing up to \$95.8 million to support alcohol and other drug treatment and social marketing campaign activities under the Substance Misuse Service Delivery Grants Fund and the Non-Government Organisation Treatment Grants Programme and up to \$21.1 million to support prevention and early intervention activities under the Substance Misuse Prevention and Service Improvement Grants Fund and the Good Sports Programme.
- b) The Department of Health can confirm these figures are consistent with a research paper published by the Drug Policy Modelling Program at the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre entitled "*Government drug policy expenditure in Australia - 2009/10*". This paper was published in 2013 using data from 2009/10 and there have not been any updated figures released and published since this report.
- c) Matters relating to law enforcement activities are the responsibility of the Attorney-General's Department and state and territory law enforcement agencies.