

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 4.1 Housing and Homelessness

Question No: SQ15-000977

Topic: Homelessness

Hansard page: 94

Senator Ludlam, Scott asked:

Is anyone working on a proposition to restore the \$44 million that was ripped out of the homelessness capital budget in the budget before last? Is there any good news for people who are presently experiencing homelessness, such as the capital budget being restored.

Answer:

The Commonwealth supports state and territory governments in their role of providing services to the homeless, or those at risk of homelessness, by providing financial assistance through the National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA) and the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH).

Each year \$1.3 billion is provided to states and territories under the NAHA; this includes around \$260 million for homelessness that states and territories may use for capital projects.

Under the 2015-17 NPAH, the Commonwealth is providing \$115 million each year, for two years, which all states and territory First Ministers have agreed to match. The Commonwealth is giving funding priority to frontline services focusing on women and children experiencing domestic and family violence, and homeless youth.

Longer-term funding arrangements and the respective roles of the Commonwealth, states and territories in regards to housing assistance and homelessness services, are currently being considered in the context of the White Paper on Reform of the Federation.