

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016**

**Ref No:** SQ16-000421

**OUTCOME:** 4 - Individual Health Benefits

**Topic:** MSAC

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 62, 19 October 2016

**Senator:** Di Natale, Richard

**Question:**

Senator DI NATALE: You will not have the precise number, but is MSAC a small proportion of that total pool?

Mr Stuart: I do not think that is fair to assume, no. MSAC is quite a large effort which contracts out quite a lot of health technology assessment, so I think we would probably need to come back to you on notice on that.

Senator DI NATALE: Could you give us a breakdown on how much has been spent and what proportion on MSAC versus the MBS review?

Ms Jolly: Sure.

Senator DI NATALE: I will put the rest on notice.

CHAIR: Thank you very much, Senator Di Natale.

**Answer:**

In 2015-16, total administered expenditure for the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) and the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Review was \$7.5 million. MSAC and related activities comprised \$3.6 million and the MBS Review \$3.9 million.

It is important to note that MSAC is a demand driven program with its expenditure dependent on both the number and complexity of health technology assessments undertaken.