

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 29 May 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000616

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Trachoma

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

In the 2014-15 Budget papers, annual funding of \$4.2 million to improve trachoma control services is allocated in 2017-18. In the 2015-16 Budget papers, the funding allocated for trachoma control services in 2017-18 disappeared. Can you explain the discrepancy between the 2014-15 and the 2015-16 Budget Papers in relation to trachoma funding?

a. How much funding is committed to improve trachoma control services over the forward estimates?

b. Is the Government of the view that Australia is on track to meet its commitment to eliminate trachoma by 2020?

Answer:

a) Under the *Project Agreement on Improving Trachoma Control Services for Indigenous Australians* (Project Agreement), \$16.487 million has been committed for the period

Funding is yet to be committed for trachoma control services beyond the current Project Agreement, which ceases on 30 June 2017.

Ongoing funding for activities to eliminate trachoma beyond 2017-18 is available as part of the Indigenous Australians' Health Programme.

b) Yes.