

Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 21 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000656

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Indigenous Affairs

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Kakoschke-Moore, Skye

Question:

In October 2015 the Government launched the Implementation Plan for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan. What funding has been allocated to the plan so that it can be delivered?

Answer:

The Indigenous Australians' Health Program (IAHP) provides for \$3.4 billion of funding over 4 years from 2016-17. The strategies and actions in the Implementation Plan for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013-2023 (the Implementation Plan) are funded through the various lines of activity in the IAHP that directly relate to the outcomes and deliverables.

In addition to specific activities linked to the Implementation Plan, the Government funds approximately 140 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHSs), plus a smaller number of other providers to deliver comprehensive and culturally appropriate primary health care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through the IAHP. This funding totals \$956 million across 2016-17 and 2017-18.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' health is also supported through the following key mainstream programs which provide services across the Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations:

- PBS (total 2016-17 budget: \$10.4 billion)
- MBS (total 2016-17 budget: \$22.7 billion)
- Public hospitals (total 2016-17 budget: \$17.9 billion)

Funding for ACCHSs and mainstream programs is directly linked with improving access to services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, which is a key component of the Implementation Plan.