

Question on notice no. 1

Portfolio question number: SBE17-001

2017-18 Supplementary budget estimates

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee, Attorney-General's Portfolio

Senator Lucy Gichuhi: asked the Attorney-General's Department on 24 October 2017—

I note from the National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services the total funding for the financial years 2015 to 2019 is \$1.305492 billion.

(\$ million)	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	Total
Estimated total budget	250.942	257.144	261.514	265.880	270.012	1305.492

The funding for South Australia was 100 million:

(\$ million)	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	Total
South Australia	19.483	19.789	20.047	20.312	20.559	100.190
Community Legal Centres Total	3.784	3.91	4.013	4.121	4.233	20.061
(SA)						

The figures have been adjusted for South Australia - according to the Federal Budget Paper No 3 page 67 - to 96.4 million.

(\$ million)	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	Total
South Australia	19.483	19.789	18.816	19.068	19.302	96.458
Community Legal Centres Total	3.784	3.91	2.782	2.877	2.976	16.325
(SA)	(previous figure not available)					National in funding 3.732

My first question is why has there been a decrease in funding for South Australia when there have been modest increases in total?

Answer —

Figures listed on page 67 of Federal Budget Paper No 3 do not include the \$39 million over three years of 'defined' funding for community legal centres for family

law and family violence related services announced on 24 April 2017. At the time of the 2017-18 Budget, state allocations of this funding had not yet been determined.

The defined funding was provided through a variation to the *National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services 2015-2020 (the Agreement)* which came into effect on 28 June 2017.

South Australia will receive \$3.732 million in defined funding over three years from 2017-18. The first instalment of this funding was paid to all states and territories on 7 July 2017 together with existing funding under the Agreement.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2017

Attorney General's Department

Program: 1.4 Justice Services

Question Number and Title: SBE17-001 - Decrease in funding for South Australia

Senator Lucy Gichuhi asked the following question on 30 October 2017:

I note from the National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services the total funding for the financial years 2015 to 2019 is \$1.305492 billion.

(\$ million)	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	Total
Estimated total budget	250.942	257.144	261.514	265.880	270.012	1305.492

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(\$ million)	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	Total
South Australia	19.483	19.789	18.816	19.068	19.302	96.458
Community Legal Centres Total (SA)	3.784 (previous figure not available)	3.91	2.782	2.877	2.976	16.325 National drop in funding 3.732

My question is why has there been a decrease in funding for South Australia when there have been modest increases in total?

The response to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Figures listed on page 67 of Federal Budget Paper No 3 do not include the \$39 million over three years of 'defined' funding for community legal centres for family law and family violence related services announced on 24 April 2017. At the time of the 2017-18 Budget, state allocations of this funding had not yet been determined.

The defined funding was provided through a variation to the [*National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services 2015-2020 \(the Agreement\)*](#) which came into effect on 28 June 2017.

South Australia will receive \$3.732 million in defined funding over three years from 2017-18. The first instalment of this funding was paid to all states and territories on 7 July 2017 together with existing funding under the Agreement.