

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2010-11, 23 February 2011

Question: E11-174

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: HEADSPACE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) How many extra headspace sites are now underway as promised during election?
- b) What stages are each of them at?

Answer:

- a) The new headspace sites are being established in a phased approach with ten being established in 2010-11.

The Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon Nicola Roxon MP, announced the locations of the first ten new headspace sites on 24 July 2010. Following this, headspace national office conducted an Expression of Interest process, which closed on 13 December 2010, to select lead agencies to operate headspace services at these locations. Lead agencies were announced by the Minister for Mental Health and Ageing, the Hon Mark Butler MP, on 14 April 2011. Lead agencies will enter into a contract with headspace and services will be open within six months of this contract with headspace being executed. No sites have opened to date.

- b) The funding agreement with the Department requires headspace to have contracts in place with ten new sites during 2010-11 and that each new site will be operational within six months of its contract with headspace being executed.