

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2010-11 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 5

**Question No:** 74

**Topic:** Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) Package

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

How much of the \$190m over 4 years has been spent to date? What are the forward projections?

**Answer:**

The Australian Government committed \$190 million to the Helping Children with Autism package. The Department of Health and Ageing was allocated \$20.7 million to implement new Medicare items and a further \$23.3 million was made available to Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations for initiatives that aim to improve the educational outcomes of children with Autism. The remainder of the funding within this package is managed by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA).

The FaHCSIA HCWA funding sits within the Support and Services for People with Disability appropriation – Outcome 5.

As at 18 March 2011, a total of \$102.5million of the funding made available to FaHCSIA through this package has been spent.