

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000232

OUTCOME: 4 - Individual Health Benefits

Topic: MBS Review Taskforce

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Griff, Stirling

Question:

What is the cost of running the Taskforce:

- a) Per year?
- b) What has been spent in total so far?

Answer:

a) In the 2015-16 Budget, the *Medicare Benefits Schedule - review and reform* measure provided \$34.3 million over two years from 2015-16 to continue the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC's) activities and deliver an expanded process of Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Review overseen by a clinician led MBS Review Taskforce.

As at 1 March 2017, total MBS Review Taskforce expenditure was:

- 2015/16 - \$3.9 million
- 2016/17 - \$4.3 million

b) From 1 July 2015 to 1 March 2017, total administered expenditure for the MBS Review comprised \$8.2 million.