

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000497

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Ice

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Xenophon, Nick

Question:

- a) How many new residential rehabilitation beds have been opened and become operational as a result of this funding?
- b) When and where have they been established and which ones are specifically for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander clients?
- c) How many unique individuals have been able to utilise these beds?
 - i. In total?
 - ii. By state?
 - iii. By PHN?

Answer:

While all jurisdictions contribute to the funding of residential rehabilitation services, primary responsibility for funding drug and alcohol treatment services is with state and territory governments.

Given the comparatively higher cost of delivering residential services when compared to outpatient treatments, Primary Health Networks (PHNs) have been encouraged to consider the relative priority of residential rehabilitation within their broader service mix. The following direct treatment activities are within the scope of the PHN Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program, funded under the National Ice Action Strategy:

- Early intervention (including Brief Intervention)
- Counselling
- Withdrawal Management (with pathways to post-acute withdrawal support)
- Residential Rehabilitation (with pathways to post-acute withdrawal support)
- Day Stay Rehabilitation (and other intensive non-residential programs)
- Post treatment support and relapse prevention
- Case management, care planning, and coordination

To date, Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN and the Hunter, New England and Central Coast PHN have commissioned residential rehabilitation services.

The Darling Downs and West Morton PHN has opened services at:

- Sunrise Way in Toowoomba (including Indigenous-specific services); and
- Teen Challenge in Toowoomba.

Hunter, New England and Central Coast PHN has opened services in:

- We Help Ourselves (WHOS) in Cessnock.
- Then Glen' (Ngaimpe Aboriginal Corporation) in Chittaway Bay.
- Kamira Women's Alcohol and Drug Services in Hamylyn Terrace.
- St Vincent De Paul Society 'Freeman House' in Armidale.

All of the residential rehabilitation services opened by the Hunter, New England and Central Coast PHN are receiving both mainstream and Indigenous PHN funding. All these services have commenced treatment.

The Department of Health does not have information regarding the number of individuals receiving treatment under the PHN Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program at this time. Mandatory Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have been developed, in consultation with drug and alcohol sector experts, to measure progress on the implementation and outputs of the PHN Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program.

PHN-commissioned specialist alcohol and drug treatment service providers will be required to meet the reporting obligations currently mandated through the Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Services National Minimum Dataset (AODTS-NMDS).