

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 – 2 June 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000357

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Transition to Primary Health Networks

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Wright, Penny

Question:

What level of funding will Primary Health Networks receive?

- a. How will funding for each Primary Health Network be determined?
- b. Will all PHNs receive the same base level of funding?
- c. What will happen to funds that are unspent by Medicare Locals at June 30, 2015?

Answer:

It is expected that Primary Health Networks (PHNs) will receive \$272 million in core and flexible funding in 2015-16. In addition, PHNs will receive funding to deliver targeted programmes.

- a. Core and flexible funding for PHNs takes into account a number of considerations, including rurality, socio-economic and population factors (including the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population).
- b. Funding for PHNs varies according to the variables noted above.
- c. All unspent and uncommitted Commonwealth funds held by Medicare Locals as at 30 June 2015 will return to consolidated revenue.