

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 – 2 June 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000441

OUTCOME: 1 - Population Health

Topic: Funding Transferred to PM&C for Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services

Type of Question: Hansard Page 096, 2 June 2015

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

Dr Southern: The functions that were transferred to the department of Prime Minister and Cabinet were three of the priority areas that were covered by the Substance Misuse Service Delivery Grants Fund. The three priorities were assisting Indigenous communities to provide service delivery; supporting those services targeting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; and reducing prevalence and impact of petrol sniffing. The funds being transferred to PM&C would now be part of the Indigenous Advancement Strategy funding overall.

Senator McLUCAS: You cannot confirm that they will be still applied to drug strategy in the broad. That is just the nature of what has happened to those funds. But I am trying to understand now, Dr Southern, the quantum that was transferred.

Dr Southern: We will take on notice for you the exact amounts, but I understand it is around \$90 million in 2014-15 to support Indigenous communities and services to provide drug and alcohol treatment, and the petrol-sniffing priority as well.

Answer:

Funding of \$415 million from 2013-14 to 2016-17 transferred to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet as part of the Machinery of Government changes.