

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2017-18 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1.10 Working Age Payments

Question No: SQ17-000497

Topic: Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures

Hansard page: Written

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

Given this requirement will place increased pressure on already overworked community services, will the Government provide any additional funding for drug and alcohol services?

Answer:

The Government has committed almost \$685 million over four years from 1 July 2016 to reduce the impact of drug and alcohol misuse on individuals, families and communities. Of this \$298.2 million has been provided to support the actions under the National Ice Action Strategy.

Drug and Alcohol Treatment Funding

- Of the \$685 million, \$544 in total is provided for treatment services.
- Up to \$241.5 million of this funding will be provided through Primary Health Networks over four years from 1 July 2016 under the National Ice Action Strategy.
- In addition, approximately \$75 million annually, under the *Drug and Alcohol Program*, will be provided to support existing drug and alcohol treatment services. \$42.6 million of this funding will be provided to PHNs from 1 July 2017 to administer.