

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 17 and 19 October 2012

Question: E12-305

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: HOT SPOT PHONES

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Fierravanti-Wells

Question:

- a) Have all of the grants for hot spot infrastructure been awarded, and will there be future rounds of funding?
- b) Why was the window for application so narrow? What was the notice period?
- c) There is significant evidence that hot spot phones will solicit calls from those at risk and most hot spot capital expenditure programs desire a Lifeline crisis phone at the location - is there a plan to provide Lifeline with additional funding to cover the cost of this?

Answer:

- a) Negotiations with organisations who submitted applications for funding under this initiative are yet to be concluded. It is anticipated that there will be a future funding round.
- b) The funding round was open from 30 March 2012 to 30 April 2012. This was seen as a appropriate period for potential applicants to prepare and submit an application for funding.
- c) Lifeline has been allocated \$1,433,000 (GST Exclusive) over 4 years from 2011-12 to 2014-15 to boost capacity for "hotspot" phones.