

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

Group: 2

Program: 1.3

Question No. AE15/083

Senator Macdonald asked the following question at the hearing on 27 March 2015:

CHAIR: You told us that the total legal aid budget over the four years is \$1.3 billion. Apart from the money coming out of the EDO funding, that \$1.3 billion will more or less remain. Is that correct?

Mr Manning: Yes.

CHAIR: What percentage of funding for community legal centres comes from the Commonwealth and what do the states and territories contribute?

Ms Jardine: Overall, 57 per cent nationally.

Mr Manning: From the Commonwealth.

CHAIR: Does that vary by state or territory.

Ms Jardine: Yes.

CHAIR: Perhaps on notice, is it possible to tell us what the figures are in each state and territory?

Ms Jardine: Yes.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The Community Legal Services Programme comprises funding from the Commonwealth and state governments.

The respective funding contributions under the Community Legal Services Programme by the Australian Government and the states/territories are set out in the table below.

State	Commonwealth Funding %	State/Territory Funding %
NSW	59%	41%
VIC	38%	62%
QLD	72%	28%
WA	58%	42%
SA	82%	18%
TAS	100%	0%
ACT	100%	0%
NT	100%	0%
TOTAL	57%	43%

This table only includes funding which is administered under the Community Legal Services Programme. Community legal centres have access to other sources of government funding but comprehensive information is not available.