

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

**Program:** 1.4 Justice Services

**Question No. BE16/010**

**Senator Gallagher asked the following question at the hearing on 5 May 2016:**

Senator GALLAGHER: Fair enough. Of that \$15 million in the women's safety package, how much of that money has gone to the community legal centres, ATSILs and Family Violence Prevention Legal Services? Perhaps PM&C will have to answer that?

Ms Quinn: No. That aspect of the women's safety package was entirely administered by us in Attorney-General's. There were 12 pilots to be funded across all states and territories. We made sure that we covered both regional, remote and urban areas, so there was that mix. We also made sure we got a mix of areas with high culturally and linguistically diverse populations and also Indigenous populations. Unfortunately, high rates of domestic violence are across the board. That was not overly a driver and it is also hard to get information on. There are actually 13 funded organisations as a result of that. I think 10 are community legal centres and two are legal aid commissions; none are Indigenous specific. Much like the service-planning concept I talked about earlier, we have tried to streamline how many funding agreements we are entering into so there was not too much of the overhead in administration for the provider or us. So each provider is required to work cooperatively with all other providers, not just legal assistance providers but all sorts of support services that would be able to assist people in this circumstance. That is an important part of the process.

...

Senator GALLAGHER: Is that funding over three years?

Ms Quinn: Yes.

Senator GALLAGHER: Between, say, 13 pilots and the \$15 million, would the average roughly be about \$900,00; \$300,000 a year—is that right?

Ms Quinn: It is a bit more nuanced than that. Some of the units are funded to provide a specialist domestic violence unit. Some are funded as well to deliver a health justice partnership. That is about getting embedded in some of the hospitals, for example.

Senator GALLAGHER: There is no just general—

Ms Quinn: I can provide specific amounts, but it is scaled for that.

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

A breakdown of the funding by service provider is set out in the table below.

State/ Territory	Region	Funded Service Provider	Funding per year	Total Three-Year Funding
<b>Specialist domestic violence units</b>				
NSW	South-West Sydney	Legal Aid New South Wales	\$0.35m	\$1.05m
NSW	Dubbo	Western New South Wales Community Legal Centre <sup>1</sup>	\$0.37m	\$1.11m
VIC	North-East Melbourne	Eastern Community Legal Centre	\$0.35m	\$1.05m
VIC	Mallee	Murray Mallee Community Legal Service	\$0.35m	\$1.05m
QLD	Townsville	North Queensland Women's Legal Service	\$0.35m	\$1.05m
WA	Kimberley	Kimberley Community Legal Service <sup>2</sup>	\$0.40m	\$1.20m
TAS	North-West	Women's Legal Service Tasmania	\$0.35m	\$1.05m
ACT	Canberra	Women's Legal Centre ACT	\$0.35m	\$1.05m
<b>Specialist domestic violence units and health justice partnerships</b>				
QLD	Brisbane and the Gold Coast	Women's Legal Service Queensland	\$0.60 m	\$1.80 <sup>3</sup> m
WA	North-East Perth	Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre	\$0.45m	\$1.35m
SA	Elizabeth	Legal Services Commission of South Australia	\$0.45m	\$1.35m
NT	Alice Springs	Central Australian Women's Legal Service	\$0.45m	\$1.35m
<b>Standalone health justice partnership</b>				
VIC	Inner Melbourne	Inner Melbourne Community Legal	\$0.10m	\$0.30m

<sup>1</sup> Additional funding accounts for regional location of provider and associated outreach and staffing costs.

<sup>2</sup> As above.

<sup>3</sup> Funding amount accounts for multiple service locations.