

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2011-12 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2

Question No: 55

Topic: Funding for the National Affordable Housing Agreement

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Payne asked:

(1) What is the current funding distribution for the National Affordable Housing Agreement, state by state? (2) Why is funding not linked to the number of public housing dwellings? (3) If funding was linked to the number of public housing dwellings, rather than population, what would the funding distribution be? (state by state).

Answer:

Question 1

The following table shows expected funding to states and territories under the National Affordable Housing Special Purpose Payment:

Current National Affordable Housing Special Purpose Payment for five years from 2009-10 to 2013-14.									Total funding \$6,221 million
	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	
\$ million	1,976.7	1,444.1	1,239.6	648.8	474.1	162.1	120.4	154.9	
Proportion	31.8%	23.2%	19.9%	10.4%	7.6%	2.6%	1.9%	2.5%	

Question 2

The Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations agreed to by all jurisdictions, specifies that funding under the National Affordable Housing Specific Purpose Payment be distributed on a per capita basis under which all National Agreements are governed.

Question 3

The NAHA is much broader than funding the operation of public housing; therefore the distribution of funding based purely on the number of public housing dwellings would not be appropriate. For example, the National Affordable Special Purpose Payment can be used for homelessness services, private rental assistance, and transitional and crisis accommodation.

If a per dwelling approach to funding was adopted, the way this was applied to the total National Affordable Housing SPP would be the subject of negotiation with the states and territories.