

2 JUN 2015

**ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**Wednesday, 24 June 2015**

**Department of Health**

*Question No. 60: Hon S Ellery asked –*

*Budget Paper: 2, Vol 1, Part 3*

*Page: 140*

*Line Item: Under Works in Progress Southern Inland Health Initiative Telehealth*

*I refer to the \$5.55m in total allocation for telehealth facilities in the Southern Inland Health region as part of development of a \$36.5m Statewide telehealth service announced in 2011 over four years and ask:*

*This is the only telehealth project itemized in the budget, where is the rest of the money for the Statewide telehealth service?*

**Answer:** The SIHI Stream 5 Telehealth project includes \$5.5 million for capital equipment (including infrastructure and equipment) in the Southern Inland Health area.

Beyond the corrected capital allocation, the remaining funds are operational and support the delivery of telehealth services across the State and are coordinated by the Statewide Telehealth Service (STS). This operational funding source is through the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) recurrent budget and for a limited period, until 2017/18, Royalties for Regions Southern Inland Health Initiative telehealth funding. These funds are being applied to the development of clinical services such as the Emergency Telehealth Service, allied health, plastic surgery consultations, stroke and mental health services plus regional and metropolitan telehealth support staff, scheduling and helpdesk facilities, along with other telehealth services in the SIHI area.

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*I refer to the \$5.55m in total allocation for telehealth facilities in the Southern Inland Health region as part of development of a \$36.5m Statewide telehealth service announced in 2011 over four years and ask:*

*How much has been actually spent in total to date since 2011 on the Statewide telehealth service?*

**Answer:** As at 31 May 2015 \$15,438,296 has been spent on the Statewide Telehealth Service since 2011.

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*I refer to the \$5.55m in total allocation for telehealth facilities in the Southern Inland Health region as part of development of a \$36.5m Statewide telehealth service announced in 2011 over four years and ask:*

*How much will be sent in the 15/16 year and forward estimates period, broken down by year, on the Statewide Telehealth Service?*

Answer: The breakdown for Statewide Telehealth Service funding in financial year 2015/16 and forward estimates is in the table below.

	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Funding Source (\$'000)</b>	9,131	8,804	12,866	30,801

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*When will the Statewide Telehealth Service be fully operational?*

**Answer:** The Statewide Telehealth Service (STS) is well established, and will continue to evolve as technology and service delivery options change. A wide range of services currently exist and a state-wide scheduling system will be implemented by late 2015. New programs will be implemented based on need and funding availability.