

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-116

OUTCOME 10: Health Systems Capacity and Quality

Topic: SUBACUTE BEDS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

PCQ was advised by Queensland Health representatives in October 2010 that \$327M in additional funding would be made available via the National Partnership Agreement to support service enhancements in sub-acute health care in Queensland, including palliative care.

How much of that money has been provided to support palliative care service provision in Queensland, and what further funding can the palliative care sector in Queensland expect to be awarded via NPA funding over the next 4 years from this \$327M?

Answer:

Through the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services (NPA), the Commonwealth is providing \$327 million to Queensland to deliver at least 265 subacute care beds and community-based services over the period 2010-11 to 2013-14.

Queensland plans to allocate approximately \$24 million to support palliative care service provision over the period 2010-11 to 2013-14. Queensland has identified a total of 26 new palliative care beds and services in the community across the following facilities: Redland Hospital (Cleveland), the Royal Children's Hospital (Herston), Ipswich Hospital and Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Hospital (Brisbane).

Under the NPA states and territories, including Queensland, have the flexibility to plan the mix of subacute service types and the regional distribution of these services that will best meet the needs of their jurisdictions. States and territories are required to actively engage with relevant sectors, including the palliative care sector, in the development of their Implementation Plan and throughout the agreement period.