

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 30 & 31 May and 1 June 2012

Question: E12-024

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: Evans Head development

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Fierravanti-Wells

Question:

It is more than 11 years since the RSL were allocated beds at Evans Head. This is a matter that is repeatedly raised in estimates. To date, there still has been no development; construction has not commenced and the uncertainty about the venture is creating tensions in the community. Could you please outline to me what the position is and when the matter is going to be finalised one way or the other?

Answer:

As has been stated at previous Senate Estimates hearings, the development at Evan's Head experienced significant delays associated with the need to remediate the Evan's Head Memorial Aerodrome site.

The approved provider has advised that the site's remediation was completed in December 2011 and a Development Application was approved in March 2012. The approved provider has advised it expects to commence construction in April 2013, with an expected completion date in July 2014. Before April 2013, the approved provider plans to obtain a Building Application approval, conduct a tender process to obtain building services, and complete necessary earthworks.

The Department of Health and Ageing is continuing to monitor the site's development.