And 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: E12-419

OUTCOME 10: Health System Capacity and Quality

Topic: Victorian Government - Kyneton

Type of Question: Hansard Page 105, 30 May 2012

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator McKenzie

Question: Kyneton Hospital – additional funding requested

Ms Smith: Yes, work has progressed on a project agreement with the Victorian government. Project agreements are used for all state and territory projects. It has taken a while to get a conclusion on just the whole format of project agreements, which is entirely outside any issues that Kyneton might or might not have. We do now have the project agreements are ready to go. The Victorian government provided a draft of the project agreement for Kyneton on 3 May and we are looking at that right now and aim to progress it as fast as we can.
Senator McKENZIE: Given the delay, and the obvious increase in construction costs that will have been incurred over that time, is there any talk about increasing the amount of money available?
Ms Smith: I do not know that any more money has been asked for, and I can certainly take it on notice to check and I will let you know if anything has been offered differently.

Answer:

Funding of $6.79 million is being provided to the Victorian State Government under the 2010 Health and Hospitals Fund Regional Priority Round for the construction of a new Medical Centre at Kyneton.

The Department of Health and Ageing has been working with the Victorian Government to finalise a Project Agreement for the project and provided a revised draft of the agreement to Victoria on 24 May 2012.

The Victorian Government has not requested any additional funding for this project. Funding awarded under the 2010 Health Hospitals Fund Regional Priority Round is fully committed and as such, there is no capacity to provide any additional funding for projects from this source.