

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2013-14, 5/6 & 7 June 2013**

**Question: E13-220**

**OUTCOME:** 8 - Indigenous Health

**Topic:** Stronger Futures

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 24, 7 June 2013

**Senator:** Siewert

**Question:**

In regards to Stronger Futures which targets have been achieved?

**Answer:**

A table listing the seven Health elements with their respective targets/outputs, a status update and funding for the 2012-13 financial year is provided at Attachment A.

Attachment A

Element Descriptor	Targets/Outputs	2012-13 S(M)	Status (Jun - Dec 2012)
<p><b>Stronger Indigenous Health Services</b> Funding for primary care health care services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Stronger Indigenous Health Services (SIHS) element of SFNT consists of four sub-components which aim to develop a Northern Territory-wide integrated and comprehensive primary health care system.</li> </ul> <p>The four sub components of the SIHS element are:</p> <p><b>Primary Health Care Service Delivery:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding to the NT Government (NTG) and remote NT Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>employ and provide training to administrative, management and Aboriginal Health Worker staff to deliver primary health care services;</li> <li>annually increase the number of Aboriginal people employed in primary health care services;</li> <li>implement activities to improve the quality, sustainability and effectiveness of service delivery through Continuous Quality</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>33.3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary health care service delivery continued in around 80 clinics across the NT including 26 ACCHOs</li> <li>NT Aboriginal Health Forum partners worked together to produce a list of possible building upgrade and repair projects for health clinics. A number of projects will go ahead.</li> <li>The Northern Territory Continuous Quality Improvement program funds regional facilitators across the NT to implement activities to improve quality and effectiveness in both NT clinics and ACCHOs.</li> <li>Evaluation of the element will be undertaken in 2016-17</li> </ul>

Element Descriptor	Targets/Outputs	2012-13 \$(M)	Status (Jun - Dec 2012)
	<p>Improvement (CQI) and NT Aboriginal Health Key Performance Indicator (NT AHKPI) processes; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deliver regional 'hub' services to supply jurisdiction-wide chronic disease prevention and management services.</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>Core Primary Health Care Services Framework Implementation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that NTG and ACCHO primary health care service planning, delivery and management is aligned with the Core Primary Health Care Services Framework.</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>Health Professional Housing and Clinics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited capital works investment in staff housing and limited maintenance of staff housing and clinics.</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>Evaluation and Monitoring:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor implementation and evaluate the effectiveness of SIHS elements and sub components.</li> </ul>		

Element Descriptor	Targets/Outputs	2012-13 \$'M	Status (Jun Dec 2012)
<p><b>Remote Area Health Corps</b> Short term placements of health professionals in remote communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>450 professional placements annually</li> </ul>	5.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>259 placements have been made</li> <li>Final report for 2012/13 not yet available</li> </ul>
<p><b>Structural Reform of Health Services</b> The continuing reform of the Aboriginal primary health care system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-alignment of Australian and Territory Governments' primary health care funding to support the needs of all Health Service Delivery Areas (HSDAs) in the Northern Territory;</li> <li>Creation of new clinical and business governance structures to enable the integration and coordination of services in all HSDAs;</li> <li>Development of partnerships to support HSDAs in progressing towards community control;</li> <li>Continuous Quality Improvement processes embedded in HSDA service delivery to ensure ongoing collection and analysis of data to support future planning and measurement of the functionality of health services.</li> <li>Initial outputs will be the confirmation of final governance and service transition arrangements in six priority Health Service Delivery Areas (HSDAs) in the Northern Territory</li> </ul>	0.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The West Arnhem HSDA has become a fully incorporated board and is in the process of developing its final regionalisation proposal.</li> <li>The two Central Australian HSDAs have established executive steering committees to work with the partners and key stakeholders to develop a final regionalisation proposal.</li> <li>Evaluation of the element will be undertaken in 2016/17.</li> </ul>

Element Descriptor	Targets/Outputs	2012-13 \$'M	Status (Jan - Dec 2012)
<b>Hearing Health Services</b> Integrated hearing services program for children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,700 audiology services annually</li> <li>• 700 hearing health coordinated services annually</li> </ul>	2.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 721 audiology services against annual target of 1700.</li> <li>• only 37 child hearing health coordinated services against annual target of 700.</li> </ul> Final report for 2012/13 not yet available
<b>Oral Health Services</b> Integrated oral health program for children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3,200 clinical occasions of service annually</li> <li>• 3,352 fluoride varnish applications annually</li> <li>• 2,895 fissure sealants annually</li> <li>• 100 dental surgeries under general anaesthetic annually</li> </ul>	3.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,888 clinical occasions of service against annual target of 3,200.</li> <li>• 588 children provided fluoride varnish applications against annual target of 3,352.</li> <li>• 1,557 children received fissure sealants against total annual target of 2,895.</li> <li>• 25 dental surgeries under general anaesthetic against an annual target of 100.</li> </ul> Final report for 2012/13 not yet available
<b>Alcohol Management Plans</b> Alcohol and other drug treatment workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 new AoD workers delivering services in communities who are negotiating AMPs or have existing AMPs</li> </ul>	0.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australian Government agencies are working with service providers to take on new or extend existing workers and employ up to 20 AoD workers</li> <li>• Evaluation of the element will be undertaken in 2016/17</li> </ul>
<b>Mobile Outreach Service Plus</b> Child abuse trauma counselling service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 360 visits to remote Aboriginal communities</li> <li>• 800 case related services</li> <li>• 60 non case related services</li> </ul>	4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 175 visits made to remote Aboriginal communities</li> <li>• 374 case related services</li> <li>• 772 non case related services</li> <li>• Final report for 2012/13 not yet available</li> </ul>