

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-115

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: HOSPITAL IN THE HOME PROGRAM IN NORTHERN TASMANIA

Written Question on Notice

Senator Bushby asked:

- a) Has the Department/minister been approached by the Member for Bass Geoff Lyons to provide funding or assistance in order to keep the Hospital in the Home program running?
- b) If so, what discussions have taken place and what has been the outcome?
- c) Are there any grants programs or other similar avenues that could be pursued to obtain federal funding?

Answer:

- a) Yes.
- b) The Member for Bass outlined to the Minister for Health the health needs of the people in his electorate and the Minister's office briefed him on Commonwealth programs including \$2.3 billion in health funding this decade to improve healthcare in Tasmania.
- c) There is no specific Commonwealth funding for hospital in the home programs. Commonwealth funding for public hospital services is currently provided through the National Healthcare Specific Purpose Payment, and will be provided through the National Health Reform Agreement from 1 July 2012. States and territories, as public hospital system managers, decide which specific services will be provided. These may include hospital in the home programs.