

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12- 385

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: LOCAL HOSPITAL NETWORKS

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Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

To what extent have the new local hospital networks replicated the previous health area services, and in which states?

Answer:

- While the number of Local Hospital Networks (LHNs) has been agreed to bilaterally, the final decision with respect to boundaries remains with individual states and territories.
- Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory have largely based their LHN boundaries on the previous health area services (or equivalent arrangements). All other jurisdictions have an expanded number of LHNs compared to previous health area services (or equivalent arrangements).
- There are a total of 137 LHNs across the country. Of these, 124 are geographically based and 13 are organised around statewide clinical specialties.