

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-034

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Public Hospitals and Information: Tasmanian Package

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Senator Bushby

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of how much funding will be provided each year to the Tasmanian Government under the Tasmanian Health Assistance Package? How much of that is spent on elective surgery each year?

Answer:

Payment for elements of the Tasmanian Health Assistance Package to be implemented by the Tasmanian Government will, subject to the requirements of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations, be made under the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Health Services in Tasmania (NPA IHST).

Elective Surgery

Under Schedule A to the NPA IHST: Reducing Elective Surgery Waiting Lists in Tasmania, the Commonwealth will provide Tasmania with a maximum of \$30.5 million over four years:

Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Total
\$ million	8.8	8.3	7.1	6.2	30.5

Other Package elements to be delivered by the Tasmanian Government

The Australian Government has committed to provide approximately \$5 million (GST exclusive) over four years from 2012-13, for the Medical Specialist Outreach Assistance Program (MSOAP) expansion in Tasmania. In 2012-13, the Tasmanian Government will receive \$250,000 (GST exclusive) to deliver additional services under this measure. From 2013-14, the MSOAP will be administered through the Rural Health Outreach Fund (RHOF). RHOF funding will be provided through a competitive grant round. Assessment of applications received for the RHOF is currently underway.

Negotiations are underway on a number of additional Schedules to the NPA IHST. Until these have been agreed, the amount of funding available to the Tasmanian Government cannot be fully determined.