

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-035

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: Public Hospitals and Information: Tasmanian Package

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Senator Fierravanti-Wells

Question:

Does the agreement require the money for elective surgery to be spent on different types of surgery? i.e. knee, hip, gall bladder removals, hernia repairs, cataracts?

Answer:

Under Schedule A: Reducing Elective Surgery Waiting lists in Tasmania of the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Health Services in Tasmania, an Action Plan is agreed annually by the Commonwealth and Tasmania. The Action Plan outlines the surgical procedures to be undertaken, based on who has waited the longest beyond the clinically recommended waiting time for their surgery.

In the first year (2012-13), there is a focus on the major surgical categories of knee replacements, hip replacements, cataract extractions, gall bladder removals and hernia repairs. Surgical categories for the subsequent years of the agreement will be decided annually by the Commonwealth and Tasmania.