

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016, 03 March 2016**

**Ref No:** SQ16-000279

**OUTCOME:** 4 - Acute Care

**Topic:** Mersey Hospital

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 3, 3 March 2016.

**Senator:** Urquhart, Anne

**Question:**

Given that it took the Commonwealth and state governments three months to ratify the current agreement, after reaching an in-principle agreement in May last year, that means that the previous heads of agreement expired before the current agreement was in place - that is correct isn't it?

**Answer:**

The previous Heads of Agreement was due to expire on 30 June 2015. To allow time for the Tasmanian Government and the Commonwealth to negotiate the new Heads of Agreement, a Deed of Variation was executed on 25 June 2015 to extend the Heads of Agreement until 31 July 2015.

On 30 July 2015, a Deed of Variation was executed for a further one month extension to 31 August 2015, to allow sufficient time for the new Heads of Agreement to be ratified.

The new agreement was in place from 1 September 2015 and will expire on 30 June 2017.