

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

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

**Ref No:** SQ16-000282

**OUTCOME:** 4 - Acute Care

**Topic:** NPA on Improving Public Hospital Services

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 4, 3 March 2016

**Senator:** Urquhart, Anne

**Question:**

There are 10 rehab beds at the North West Regional Hospital, which are funded under the Commonwealth National Partnerships Program, which I think now has ceased. I understand that the beds are due to close at the end of this financial year. Can you give me an update on the future funding arrangements for these beds?

**Answer:**

All Commonwealth funding attributed to the improvement of subacute care services (including rehabilitation services) under the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services (NPA IPHS) was paid to the states as an upfront investment between 2010-11 and 2013-14. Funding under the NPA IPHS was not intended to form part of ongoing funding for public hospital services and ceased on 30 June 2015.

Commonwealth funding for public hospitals in Tasmania continues to grow over the forward estimates, increasing from \$333.7 million in 2014-15 to \$388.2 million in 2018-19, representing an increase of \$54.5 million or 16.3 per cent.

As system managers of the Tasmanian public hospital system, the Tasmanian Government is responsible for providing health and emergency services through the public hospital system.