

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000128

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Mersey Community Hospital

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Duniam, Jonathon

Question:

- a) Is the Department of Health aware of alternative plans regarding future hospital services and proposed greenfield facilities in North West Tasmania?
- b) If so, what would be the impact on the two existing hospitals, being the state-owned North West Regional Hospital and the federally-owned Mersey Community Hospital, of a new and third hospital based on the North West coast?
- c) Specifically, and subject to the services provided, would the construction of a third hospital necessitate the closure of one or both of the two existing hospitals?

Answer:

The Department of Health has seen media reports of the proposal for the establishment of a new hospital in North West Tasmania.

States and territories are the system managers of the public hospital system. The Department does not have a view of the impact of the conjectured construction of a new facility.