

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2013-14, 5/6 & 7 June 2013

Question: E13-008

OUTCOME: 13 - Acute Care

Topic: Palliative Care

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Boyce

Question:

According to the AIHW - palliative care admissions rose by more than 50% between 2001-2010.

- a) How many dedicated fully or partly Commonwealth funded palliative care beds are there in Australia?
- b) How many are there in Queensland.

Answer:

- a) Through the National Health Reform Agreement Specific Purpose Payments, the Commonwealth subsidises the cost of all public hospital services in Australia, including inpatient palliative care services. There is no national dataset on palliative care beds, as the planning and provision of these beds is the responsibility of individual states and territories.

Using Commonwealth funding provided through the Subacute Care schedule of the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services, states and territories have committed to deliver a total of 114.5 palliative care beds and bed equivalents over the period 2010-11 to 2013-14.

- b) Of the above figure, Queensland has committed to deliver a total of 25.5 palliative care beds and bed equivalents over the period 2010-11 to 2013-14.