

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

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

**Question: E13-056**

**OUTCOME:** 13 - Acute Care

**Topic:** National Health Funding Body - Palliative Care

**Type of Question:** Question on Notice

**Senator:** Boyce

**Question:**

In 2010, \$327M in funding was allocated to Queensland via the National Partnership Agreement to be used for sub-acute services, including rehabilitation, geriatric evaluation management, psycho-geriatrics and palliative care. Of this amount, \$30.52M was allocated by the Queensland Government for palliative care.

- a) How much of this allocated \$30.52M has actually been used as planned for palliative care services in Queensland?
- b) Which services and projects have been funded with this money?

**Answer:**

- a) Queensland's progress reports on its Implementation Plan under Schedule E (New Subacute Beds Guarantee Funding) of the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services (NPA IPHS) does not provide this level of detail.
- b) Queensland's approved Implementation Plan under the NPA IPHS indicates the following funds will be directed to palliative care projects:
  - \$12.46 million for a new Palliative Care Unit including 10 palliative care beds at Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Hospital;
  - A share of \$97.98 million across 13 sites, including a 10 palliative care bed project at Redland Hospital;
  - A share of \$97.98 million across 13 sites, including a four bed paediatric palliative care service at Royal Children's Hospital; and
  - A share of \$61.53 million across 13 sites, including a 1.5 palliative care bed project at Ipswich Hospital.

Queensland's July to December 2012 progress report under the NPA IPS indicates three of these four palliative care projects are progressing. Existing ward space on the third floor of the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Hospital was converted and opened in March 2012, as an interim measure until construction of the new Palliative Care Unit is finished. The projects at the Redland Hospital, Royal Children's Hospital and Ipswich Hospital are part of multi-site project and are not reported on separately.