

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-419

OUTCOME 5: Primary Care

Topic: GP SUPER CLINICS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Colbeck asked:

The operators of the Cooe clinic have said this GP Super Clinic will have four GPs when it opens. Again in local media reports, the operator has stated that three of these GPs already work locally.

- a) How many GPs will be working at the clinic full time?
- b) Part time?
- c) How many are already working locally?
- d) Is it justifiable to invest \$2.5 million in a major construction upgrade which results in the addition of just one new GP, but at the same time removes three other GP from existing practices?
- e) Was any analysis conducted on the impact of other clinics in Burnie and surrounds?

Answer:

- a) The operator of the Burnie GP Super Clinic has indicated that it will have six Full Time Equivalent (FTE) GPs.
- b) Refer to a) above.
- c) All the Burnie GP Super Clinic GPs are from the local area.
- d) While GPs are a key part of a GP Super Clinic, the GP Super Clinic model of care focuses on the delivery of multidisciplinary, team based care. As per the model of care, the Burnie GP Super Clinic will offer GPs and nurse led clinics, along with allied health professionals and a pharmacy. GPs, as with other health professionals, can choose the location in which they work. GP Super Clinics are aimed at becoming workplaces of choice, providing environments which attract and retain both their workforce and their patients.

- e) The Burnie GP Super Clinic was a 2007 election commitment. Local consultations were conducted on 1 October 2008. All local members and potentially affected members of the local community were encouraged to attend. There was a significant allowance made for listening to views at the time. A précis of each consultation was published on our website (refer to *Hansard Budget Estimates Wednesday, 20 October 2010, page CA 56*).

GP Super Clinics aim to build on existing primary health care services and enhance, rather than compete, with these services. Linkages between the Burnie GP Super Clinic and other local health services are encouraged as are opportunities for the Burnie GP Super Clinic and existing health services to develop partnership approaches to local health service planning and co-ordination.