

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-414

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: SUBACUTE BEDS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) How many of the 1316 hospital beds promised by Kevin Rudd in April last year and budgeted for in the last Budget have been delivered in the last financial year?
- b) Can you provide the detail the states and hospitals in which these beds have been installed and opened?
- c) Are all these beds - actually beds?

Answer:

- a) The commitment to deliver 1,316 beds and bed-equivalents is over a four-year period, 2010-11 to 2013-14, during the life of Schedule E to the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services. Progress reports from the states and territories indicate that approximately 250 beds and bed-equivalents were delivered in 2010-11 under the Agreement.
- b) A breakdown of the states and territories in which the 250 beds were delivered is as follows: New South Wales 107, Victoria 139 and the Australian Capital Territory 4. Hospital-level information about the beds is contained in the state and territory implementation plans which are to be published in early 2012 on the following website: http://www.federalfinancialrelations.gov.au/content/national_agreements.aspx
- c) In accordance with the definition in Schedule E to the National Partnership Agreement these are beds. The definition includes beds and bed-equivalents in hospitals and community settings.