

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-415

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: MERSEY HOSPITAL

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) The agreement for the Commonwealth to fund the Mersey Hospital in North-West Tasmania was renegotiated which resulted in a \$17.5 million dollar increase in federal funding - did the Tasmanian Government make a submission for increased funding?
- b) What funding increase did the Tasmanian Government seek?
- c) Given that at the same time it was preparing for harsh funding cuts for all other health services in Tasmania - did it indicate its intention for funding cuts in other Tasmanian hospitals?

Answer:

- a) The Tasmanian Premier wrote to the then Prime Minister, the Hon Kevin Rudd MP, on 27 April 2010 requesting negotiations commence for a contract extension.
- b) Negotiations between the Commonwealth and the Tasmanian Government resulted in a new contract for \$197.6 million over three years.
- c) No.