

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 21 October 2011

Question: E11-512

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: HEALTH AND HOSPITAL FUND AND FACILITIES IN WA

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Senator Siewert asked:

Yes. In terms of the rollout of the other initiatives that were announced when the renal study was released, what progress has been made in implementing those? There was the accommodation – there was some for Central Australia and for Western Australia, although some were budget announcements, weren't they?

Ms Powell: There are a number of different accommodation initiatives. There is the one that Minister Snowdon announced immediately in response to the renal study. There are sites that have been selected in Alice Springs, which is the Allchurch Street site, and Tennant Creek, which is the Wattle Street site, and we are working through the details of exactly what that will look like with the Northern Territory government. We are just waiting on final proposals around the proportion of family accommodation, the number of beds and all those sorts of things, so that is progressing.

In terms of the other accommodation, a lot was announced as part of the Health and Hospitals Fund. There is one that is being built in the East Kimberley, around Kununurra. There is a big dialysis centre going in Kununurra. They have started construction on that, and a lot of construction has gone on. I got a photo of it the other day, and it looked like it was advancing rapidly.

Senator Siewert: Excellent.

Ms Powell: They are trying to get as much done as they can before the wet.

Senator Siewert: I am aware of time. Maybe you could take on notice giving us a bit of an update on where each of those initiatives is at.

Answer:

In the 2009-10 Federal Budget the Government announced a \$3.2 billion nation-building package of health infrastructure projects to be funded from the Health and Hospitals Fund. As part of this package, WA Health was allocated \$8.6 million towards the Kimberley Renal Dialysis Services project (the Project).

This Project is for expanded renal dialysis services at two sites in the Kimberley region – Derby and Kununurra, and includes satellite, community and home dialysis.

The Implementation Plan was agreed to on 24 January 2011.

The Project will fund the following at each site:

- *Kununurra Community Supported Dialysis Service*
A single story extension will be constructed onto the existing Ord Valley Aboriginal Health Service facility in Kununurra, including four dialysis stations and accommodation for up to 16 patients. Patient transport is also part of the project.
- *Derby Satellite Dialysis Service*
This part of the project includes a new building that will be co-located with the Derby Aboriginal Medical Service. It will include six dialysis stations for 24 patients, plumbed to accommodate 10 dialysis stations to allow for future expansion for up to 40 patients. One vehicle for patient transport is part of the project along with one vehicle for staff movement and administration.

Current project status

The wall structure is now complete at both sites, ready for the roof installation.

To date, \$4.9 million has been paid to WA Health for this project.

At this stage, the project is on track for the next milestone payment, which is 50 per cent construction complete at both sites. This milestone is due 31 January 2012 and has a \$0.5 million payment attached.