PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

08 September 2023

PDR Number: IQ23-000097

List of CHHP projects

Spoken

Hansard page number: 16

Senator: Linda Reynolds

Question:

Senator REYNOLDS: Are you able to provide us with a list? You have one list from the chair. You are saying that it is not quite up to date. Are you able to give us an idea of how many projects? You might have to take it on notice.
 Mr Chalmers: I can certainly provide that.
 Senator REYNOLDS: Have you got it here now?
CHAIR: I don't think we are going to fill time by reading out a list of projects.
 Mr Chalmers: I can take it on notice.
Senator REYNOLDS: What you are saying is that the detail wasn't quite correct or up to date. What is the up-to-date version?
Mr Chalmers: The point I'd like to make is that CHHP included both service delivery and infrastructure projects. Services have commenced on 39 projects. We have completed 63 projects. If you add those two figures together, 102 projects out of 171 are either delivering services or have reached completion.
CHAIR: That makes sense. The figure I used of 63 out of 171 was right as far as it goes, but that was infrastructure. There is an additional group of service projects. If you could take on notice an update on the projects, that would be helpful. I understand that some of them are still being reviewed by the government to see whether they are even feasible
Senator REYNOLDS: On that information, are you able to confirm which federal seats they went to?

Answer:

Response provided in IQ23-000102.

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08 September 2023

PDR Number: IQ23-000098

List of Completed service delivery projects

Spoken

Hansard page number: 21

Senator: Linda Reynolds

Question:

Senator REYNOLDS: Thank you; that was very helpful. The chair mentioned the expressions of interest before this. Can you confirm who those EOIs went out to? My understanding is that they went to states and territories, community organisations and PHNs; is that correct?
Ms Pratt: The EOIs, on 24 December 2018, only went to states and territories. In early January, the 2nd, they went to primary health networks. There was no EOI process for non-government organisations.
Senator REYNOLDS: They went to states, territories and PHNs. As we just clarified, decisions for these went through cabinet and budget processes, as appropriate, according to the different program. They were announced in the 2019 budget; correct?
Ms Pratt: Yes.
Senator REYNOLDS: They did go through that process. The chair was trying to allude earlier to it being just the minister who may have unilaterally made those decisions. Just to clarify—
Ms Pratt: It went through the correspondence process at the end of the budget process.
Senator REYNOLDS: Correspondence, but still through the cabinet process—
Ms Pratt: Yes.
Senator REYNOLDS: and into the budget process. I am trying to work out the numbers you have given me. Correct me if my maths is wrong: 90 per cent of the service delivery projects are underway or complete?
Ms Pratt: Of the service delivery projects—
Mr Chalmers: Of the service delivery projects, 39 are underway. I don't have a breakdown here of which ones are which.

Ms Pratt: Of the service delivery projects, there are 25 services commenced and 42 are complete.

Senator REYNOLDS: So 42 are complete. Perhaps you could take on notice how many are complete, in terms of absolute numbers of projects, plus the dollar value that sits underneath that.

CHAIR: I am trying to be helpful here. Why don't we just put one comprehensive request in for the projects? All of the service delivery—do we want to step that together?

Answer:

Response provided in IQ23-000102.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

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Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

08 September 2023

PDR Number: IQ23-000099

List of electorates for CHHP projects

Spoken

Hansard page number: 22

Senator: Linda Reynolds

Question:

Senator REYNOLDS: What I would like to confirm is that, of this large amount of money, the majority of it actually went to large, iconic medical research and delivery programs. Could you either take on notice or confirm that the Sydney comprehensive child cancer care program got $100 million.

Ms Pratt: Yes.

Senator REYNOLDS: So that is right?

Ms Pratt: That's correct.

Senator REYNOLDS: The Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre got $80 million, located in Melbourne, which is in the electorate of Kingsford Smith.

Ms Pratt: I am not sure about the electorate. The dollar amount is correct, yes.

Senator REYNOLDS: It is in Kingsford Smith. How much went to the Centre of Excellence in Cellular Immunotherapy?

Ms Pratt: That one I will have to take on notice; sorry.

Senator REYNOLDS: Could you also confirm where that is.

Ms Pratt: Yes.

Senator REYNOLDS: From memory, it was a large amount of money. The Westmead cystic fibrosis centre got $65 million.

Ms Pratt: We will confirm on notice. That sounds right.

Senator REYNOLDS: That is in the electorate of Parramatta. The Shellharbour Hospital upgrade got $125 million.

Ms Pratt: That's correct.

Senator REYNOLDS: That's in the electorate of Whitlam. The Advanced Medical Research Centre biomedical project got $30 million.

Ms Pratt: I will have to confirm that one.

Senator REYNOLDS: I think it is in the electorate of Melbourne. The national melanoma research centre at the Alfred got $50 million.

Ms Pratt: It sounds right, but I will have to confirm on notice.

Senator REYNOLDS: I believe that's in Melbourne Ports. The Geelong Women's and Children's Hospital got $50 million.

Ms Pratt: We'll confirm.

Senator REYNOLDS: I understand that's in the electorate of Corio. You'll confirm those.

Answer:

Response provided in IQ23-000102.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

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Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000102

Table on projects and subprojects

Spoken

Hansard page number: 28-29

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

CHAIR: There is a bit of flexibility in there. I was consulting with the Deputy Chair. We've each asked for some information on the way through. Can I have a go with your agreement or concurrence now that we're all friends again? So, just to perhaps restate our information request, which might supersede some of the requests along the way. If it was possible to get a table—and I think these headings would suffice; if you then wanted to confirm with the secretariat so that we're commissioning the right information in one go rather than a whole lot of wasted effort—that set out the project, whether it was approved or identified through an EOI or some other process? So, which program it was from, if there were a couple of subprograms? There are conflicting dollar figures, $2 billion and $7 billion. So, which program or stream was it from? Was it for services and infrastructure? Was it being delivered via a national partnership agreement or a grant? What was the approved dollar value? What was the expected completion date, and a status update? If it's completed, was it completed on budget and, if it's not completed, what's our sense of the status? And the federal electorate as at 2019, I presume, or whenever you have that recorded. There have been boundary changes in a bunch of states since then. I think that wraps up all of our information requests

Senator REYNOLDS: I think that does, yes.

 CHAIR: It will be far more coherent for us. I'd presume from some of the media reporting that some of the project statuses are still under review, but you'll make that clear going forward?

Ms Pratt: Yes.

Answer:

The Department of Health and Aged Care has prepared a table which lists details of all 171 Community Health and Hospitals Program (CHHP) or CHHP associated projects (as defined by the 2023 Australian National Audit Office report on the Administration of the CHHP available at www.anao.gov.au/work/performance-audit/administration-of-the-community-health-and-hospitals-program, as requested by the Committee.

The table is provided at **Attachment A** and includes:

a. Updated list of CHHP and CHHP associated projects.

b. For each project confirm the federal electorate as at 2019.

c. For each project if it is completed, was it completed on budget?

d. For each project not completed, what is the budget status?

e. For each project identify if it was approved or identified through an EOI or some other process.

f. For each project identify the originating program, if there were multiple sub-programs/which program or stream was the project from?

g. For each project identify whether it was for services and infrastructure?

h. For each project identify whether it was being delivered via a national partnership agreement or a grant?

i. What was the approved dollar value of each project?

j. What was the expected completion date of each project?

k. What is the status update for each project?

Attachment A

Community Health and Hospitals Program - project report - October 2023

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) - Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian Public Sector

Project Name	State / Territory	Funding Recipient	CHHP or CHHP Associated Project	Services or Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement, PHN or Grant delivery	Budget Total ($m)	Was the project run through an EOI process? (Yes/No)	Expected Date of Project Completion	Project Status	If project is complete, was it completed on budget (Yes/No)	Budget Status	If project is not complete, sense of status	Federal Electorate
Alfred Health and Monash University – Australian Clinical Trials Network 'TrialHub'	VIC	Alfred Health and Monash University	CHHP	Combined	Grant	16.000	Yes	01/05/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Macnamara
Central Coast Medical Precinct – Medical School & Research – Gosford	NSW	University of Newcastle	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	18.000	No	15/03/2026	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Early Works	Robertson
Charles Sturt University Regional Health Research Institute (previously Health and Medical Research Institute Orange)	NSW	Charles Sturt University	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	18.000	No	4/09/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Early Works	Calare
Victorian Melanoma and Clinical Trials Centre at the Alfred Hospital	VIC	Alfred Health	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	50.000	No	15/04/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Early Works	Melbourne
Delivery of diagnostic mammography services in Launceston and Hobart	TAS	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Combined	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	3.000	No	31/10/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Statewide
Remote Point of Care Pathology Testing	NT	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Service Delivery	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	0.746	Yes	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Lingiari
Logan Street Doctor	QLD	Hanem Pty Ltd – The Takwa Trust - Trading as Wembley Road Medical Centre	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	0.600	No	01/08/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Rankin
'Health on the Streets' – Homelessness Outreach - Central Coast Primary Care	NSW	Central Coast Primary Care	CHHP	Combined	Grant	0.987	No	01/09/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Robertson
Logan Urgent and Specialist Care Centre	QLD	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	33.400	Yes	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Rankin / Forde
Community transport service for rural Victoria	VIC	Western Victoria Primary Health Network Limited	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	5.577	Yes	30/12/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Statewide/ Corio
Construction of a new Laverton Health Service	WA	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	16.800	Yes	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	Under Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	O'Connor
Primary healthcare hubs – enhancing primary care led mental health and drug and alcohol support services	WA	PHN - WA Primary Health Alliance	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	4.765	Yes	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Curtin
Mater Hospital - New Maternity Block	QLD	Mater Misericordiae Limited (Previously Mater Health Services North Queensland Limited)	CHHP	Infrastructure	Grant	9.000	Yes	01/03/2023	Planning	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Herbert
Integration of pharmacists into aged care facilities to optimise resident safety and reduce medication-related adverse effects and hospitalisation	ACT	PHN - ACT PHN	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	3.734	Yes	31/12/2022	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Canberra
Primary Health Care (PHC) delivery through community paramedicine/nurse practitioner models	SA	PHN - Country Health SA	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	2.963	Yes	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Barker
Kyabram District Health Service – Kyabram Regional Medical Clinic/Stanhope Medical Facility	VIC	Kyabram and District Health Service	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	1.700	No	01/11/2022	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Nicholls
Katanning Medical Centre	WA	Katanning Shire Council/ St Luke's Family Practice	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	0.505	No	30/06/2021	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	O'Connor
The Bays Healthcare Group – Alexandra Park Community Services	VIC	Bays Healthcare	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	2.600	Yes	15/07/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Flinders
Kojonup Medical Centre	WA	George Church Medical Centre	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	0.750	No	30/06/2021	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	O'Connor
Redevelop and extend the existing Kings Meadows Community Health Centre	TAS	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	10.000	No	30/06/2025	Planning	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Bass
Healthy Options Australia – Drug & Alcohol Community and Family Support Services in Rockhampton	QLD	Drug Awareness & Relief Foundation (Australia)	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	0.520	No	01/02/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Capricornia
Pharmaceutical Rehabilitation Service	QLD	Pharmaceutical Rehabilitation Services	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	0.600	No	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Forde
Triple Care Farm – Batemans Bay	NSW	Mission Australia	CHHP	Combined	Grant	8.000	No	30/06/2022	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Practical Completion	Gilmore
Drug and Alcohol Detoxification and Rehabilitation Facility – Dubbo (previously Dubbo Residential Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Facility)	NSW	Western NSW Local Health District	CHHP	Infrastructure	Grant	3.000	No	30/06/2022	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Parkes
The Glen Centre – Women's Indigenous Facility	NSW	Gulgul Nyugang Aboriginal Corporation	CHHP	Combined	Grant	9.000	No	01/05/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Dobell
Sideffect Australia – School Drug/Alcohol Education	National	Sideffect Australia	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	3.000	No	01/11/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	National
Goldfields Rehabilitation Services	WA	Goldfields Rehabilitation Services Inc.	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	1.500	No	30/09/2022	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	O'Connor
Drug and alcohol rehabilitation services throughout the Limestone Coast	SA	Substance Misuse Limestone Coast Incorporated	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	0.518	No	15/01/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Barker
Alcohol and Other Residential Rehab Expansion and Modernisation	ACT	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	4.300	Yes	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Canberra
Community Withdrawal Support Service	ACT	PHN - ACT PHN	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	3.595	Yes	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Canberra
Comprehensive Community Based Addictions Services	NSW	Wentworth Healthcare Limited (PHN - Nepean Blue Mountains)	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	5.500	Yes	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Lindsay
Community residential withdrawal management service	QLD	Northern Queensland Primary Healthcare Network Limited	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	0.714	Yes	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Herbert
Mission Australia Cairns	QLD	Mission Australia	CHHP	Combined	Grant	10.000	No	30/06/2022	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Practical Completion	Leichhardt
The Cottage – Shepparton	VIC	The Cottage	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	0.300	No	01/08/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Nicholls
Esther Foundation	WA	Esther Foundation	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	4.000	No	30/09/2025	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Hasluck
Mental Health/Alcohol and Drug Comorbidity Workers	TAS	PHN - Tasmania	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	1.124	No	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Braddon
City Mission - Serenity House relocation and establishment of AOD facility in the Smithton region (previously City Mission Drug Res	TAS	Launceston City Mission Inc	CHHP	Combined	Grant	6.320	No	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Practical Completion	Braddon
Residential Alcohol and Drug Rehabilitation Centres – Mackay	QLD	St Vincent de Paul Society (QLD) (Previously OzCare)	CHHP	Combined	Grant	3.900	No	31/03/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Dawson
Taking an alternative road to recovery: Two mobile alcohol and other drugs (AOD) day rehabilitation programs on the NSW South Coast	NSW	Coordinare Limited (PHN - South Eastern NSW)	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	5.000	Yes	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Eden-Monaro
Expansion of Services and new Detox Facility at the Salvation Army's Townsville Recovery Service (previously Drug and Alcohol Treatment	QLD	The Salvation Army (QLD) Property Trust	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	6.071	No	29/07/2022	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Herbert
Drug and alcohol rehabilitation services throughout the Mt Gambier region	SA	Uniting Communities	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	2.468	No	01/08/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Barker
Victorian Children's Colorectal Service	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	5.900	No	30/06/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Melbourne
Bundaberg Community Diabetes Service	QLD	Sunshine Coast Health Network Ltd	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	0.714	Yes	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Hinkler

Attachment A

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Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) - Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian Public Sector

Project Name	State / Territory	Funding Recipient	CHHP or CHHP Associated Project	Services or Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement, PHN or Grant delivery	Budget Total ($m)	Was the project run through an EOI process? (Yes/No)	Expected Date of Project Completion	Project Status	If project is complete, was it completed on budget (Yes/No)	Budget Status	If project is not complete, sense of status	Federal Electorate
Primary care led multidisciplinary care for Chronic Heart Failure	WA	PHN - WA Primary Health Alliance	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	3.800	Yes	30/06/2025	Planning	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Statewide
Hear to Learn Ashgrove Centre – School Hearing Screening Program	QLD	Hear and Say - Centre for Deaf Children Ltd	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	0.200	No	31/07/2021	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Brisbane
Improving stroke care in regional NSW via telehealth	NSW	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Service Delivery	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	9.400	Yes	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Statewide
Development of a new Power House Community Hub (previously Lord Somers Camp and Powerhouse Albert Park)	VIC	Lord Somers Camp and Power House	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	5.000	No	01/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Macnamara
Breaking the Barrier - PILOT – Health Communication - Multicultural	QLD	Central Queensland Multicultural Association Inc.	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	0.140	No	31/07/2020	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Capricornia
Caravan Park Defibrillator Subsidy Program	National	Caravan Industry Association of Australia	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	1.000	No	30/09/2021	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	National
Refurbishment of the Children's Space at Logan Hospital	QLD	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	0.050	Yes	01/06/2019	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Forde
Redevelopment of Rosebud Hospital Land Acquisition	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	5.000	Yes	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Flinders
Upgrade the Swan Hill District Hospital and planning for a new Emergency Department	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	30.000	Yes	Early 2026	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Mallee
Emerald Emergency Department Upgrade	QLD	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	10.000	Yes	10/11/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Flynn
Wodonga Hospital – development of Mental Health Rehabilitation Unit and delivery of an expanded range of consulting clinical suites	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	14.500	Yes	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Indi
Redlands Hospital Car Park	QLD	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	16.000	No	4/04/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Practical Completion	Bowman
Ellenbrook Mental Health Facility – provision of mental health and support services at the St John of God Midland Hospital	WA	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	6.000	Yes	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Hasluck
Redevelopment of hospital infrastructure at Southern Fleurieu Health Service, Victor Harbour	SA	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	8.400	Yes	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Mayo
Redevelopment of the Accident and Emergency facility at Mount Barker District Soldiers' Memorial Hospital	SA	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	8.600	Yes	30/06/2024	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Mayo
Expansion of the Intensive Care Unit at the Canberra hospital.	ACT	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Combined	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	13.500	Yes	31/03/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Bean
Shellharbour Hospital redevelopment	NSW	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	128.000	Yes	31/12/2027	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Whitlam
Cystic Fibrosis Specialist Service Unit at Westmead	NSW	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	65.000	Yes	28/07/2023	In Progress	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Parramatta
New Ambulatory Care Centre at Alice Springs Hospital	NT	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	25.700	Yes	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Lingiari
Staff accommodation block at Tennant Creek Hospital	NT	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	3.275	Yes	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Lingiari
Redland Hospital Redevelopment	QLD	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	30.000	Yes	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Bowman
Redcliffe Hospital Paediatric Emergency Department Redesign	QLD	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	10.000	Yes	13/07/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Practical Completion	Petrie
Redevelopment of the Accident and Emergency Department at the Whyalla Hospital	SA	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	11.360	Yes	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Grey
Geelong Women's and Children's Hospital – planning and partial construction of Stage 1 facilities	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	50.000	Yes	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Corio
Paediatric Emergency facilities for Geelong, Maroondah, Frankston and Casey Hospitals – planning and partial construction	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	40.000	Yes	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Early Works	Corio
Youth Forensic Inpatient Service	WA	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	14.800	Yes	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Statewide
New 33 Bed Ward at Townsville Hospital	QLD	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	12.980	Yes	21/03/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Practical Completion	Herbert
Improving Health Services for People with Brain and Spinal Cord Injuries	QLD	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Service Delivery	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	24.000	Yes	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Statewide
Expansion of the Peel Hospital Campus	WA	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	25.000	Yes	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Canning
Additional elective surgery and endoscopy procedures in Tasmania from 2019–20 onwards	TAS	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Service Delivery	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	20.000	Yes	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Statewide
Construction of a new Brain and Spinal Injury facility at the Repatriation Hospital	SA	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	30.000	Yes	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Boothby
Concord Hospital Maternity Ambulatory Care Services	NSW	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	2.200	Yes	30/06/2021	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Reid
Hospital Discharge Pilot	SA	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Service Delivery	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	3.949	Yes	31/12/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Statewide
Construction of a new Women and Newborn service at the King Edward Memorial Hospital	WA	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	15.200	Yes	30/05/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Curtin
Computed Tomography Scanner for Bowen Hospital	QLD	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	5.000	No	5/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Dawson
Refurbishment of Deniliquin Hospital	NSW	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	1.400	No	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Farrer
Improvements to the acute medical facilities at the North West Regional Hospital	TAS	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	10.000	No	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Braddon
Improvements to the West Coast District Hospital, including aged care and allied health facilities	TAS	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	1.000	No	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Braddon
Perinatal and infant mental health services in the North and North West	TAS	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	4.500	No	30/06/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Braddon
Establish a nurse-driven pilot program at Heart Centre for Children at Westmead Hospital	NSW	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	1.750	No	30/05/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Parramatta
Improvements to the Birthing suite at Launceston General Hospital	TAS	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	0.400	No	01/02/2020	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Bass
Expansion of renal dialysis unit six chairs and additional sterilisation services at the Southern Fleurieu Health Service	SA	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	5.100	No	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Mayo
PA NT 2020–21 Mental Health Inpatient Facility – Royal Darwin Hospital	NT	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	30.000	No	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Early Works	Statewide
Bass Coast Health – Phillip Island Health Hub expansion of radiology and chemotherapy chairs and a surgical and paediatric wards	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	3.514	No	31/12/2019	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Monash
Ronald McDonald House - South East Queensland	QLD	Ronald McDonald House Charities	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	2.570	No	23/02/2021	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Griffith
Comprehensive Children's Cancer Centre at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick	NSW	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	100.000	Yes	01/02/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Early Works	Kingsford Smith

Attachment A

Community Health and Hospitals Program - project report - October 2023

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) - Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian Public Sector

Project Name	State / Territory	Funding Recipient	CHHP or CHHP Associated Project	Services or Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement, PHN or Grant delivery	Budget Total ($m)	Was the project run through an EOI process? (Yes/No)	Expected Date of Project Completion	Project Status	If project is complete, was it completed on budget (Yes/No)	Budget Status	If project is not complete, sense of status	Federal Electorate
Sunshine Coast Health Foundation Accommodation Hub	QLD	Wishlist, Sunshine Coast Health Foundation	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	12.000	No	25/08/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Fisher
Goulburn Valley Hospital Cancer Centre – planning and partial construction of new facility	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	30.000	No	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Nicholls
WA Country Health Service (WACHS) Cancer Strategy (including Radiation Oncology at the Geraldton Health Campus)	WA	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Combined	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	25.134	Yes	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	O'Connor
Chemotherapy at Caboolture Hospital	QLD	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	10.000	Yes	30/11/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Longman
Purchase and installation of a Linear Accelerator for the North West Regional Hospital from 2019–20 onwards	TAS	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	4.400	No	30/04/2023	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Braddon
Central Coast Linear Accelerator	NSW	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	3.853	No	30/06/2021	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Robertson
Community Driven Cancer Care: Boosting Primary Care	NSW	PHN - Central and Eastern Sydney (Mascot)	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	6.940	Yes	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Kingsford Smith
The Bays Healthcare Group – Comprehensive Cancer Centre	VIC	Bays Healthcare	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	10.000	Yes	31/10/2022	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Flinders
To support the work of the sarcoma surgical research centre at Chris O'Brien's Lifehouse (previously Chris O'Brien Lifehouse)	NSW	Chris O'Brien Lifehouse	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	6.000	No	30/07/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Sydney
Cairns Remote Patient and Carer Accommodation Facility (previously Cairns Organisation United for Cancer Health (COUCH) Wellness Centre Land Acquisition)	QLD	Cairns Organisation United for Cancer Health Wellness Centre	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	1.300	No	31/03/2023	In Progress	N/A	Under Budget	Project being finalised	Leichhardt
Expand Cancer Infrastructure in the West Gippsland Region	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	4.500	No	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Monash
Cabrini Institute of Cancer	VIC	Cabrini Health	CHHP	Infrastructure	Grant	6.000	No	15/12/2026	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Higgins
Mid North Coast (Nambucca, Kempsey) Regional Cancer Treatment Centre for Radiation Therapy Funding Recipient: Mid North Coast Local Health District	NSW	Mid North Coast Local Health District	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	4.708	No	01/02/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Cowper
Grafton and Clarence Valley Regional Cancer Treatment Centre for Radiation Therapy Funding Recipient: Northern NSW Local Health District	NSW	Northern NSW Local Health District	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	5.000	No	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Page
Far North Coast (Tweed) Regional Cancer Treatment Centre for Radiation Therapy Funding Recipient: Northern NSW Local Health District	NSW	Northern NSW Local Health District	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	5.000	No	15/11/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Richmond
Taree Regional Cancer Treatment Centre for Radiation Therapy	NSW	Cancer Care	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	4.475	No	Unknown	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Lyne
Western NSW (Griffith) Regional Cancer Treatment Centre for Radiation Therapy	NSW	Cancer Care	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	4.375	No	30/06/2022	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Farrer
Armidale Regional Cancer Treatment Centre for Radiation Therapy	NSW	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant (moving to NPA)	5.000	No	30/06/2025	Planning	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	New England
Gladstone Regional Cancer Treatment Centre for Radiation Therapy	QLD	Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	1.948	No	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Flynn
East Gippsland Regional Cancer Treatment Centre for Radiation Therapy	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Combined	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	4.450	No	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Gippsland
Mt Gambier and Limestone Coast Regional Cancer Treatment Centre for Radiation Therapy	SA	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant (moving to NPA)	4.300	No	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Barker
South Coast (Eurobodalla / Bega) Regional Cancer Treatment Centre for Radiation Therapy	NSW	Other	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant (moving to NPA)	8.000	No	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Gilmore
Outside the Locker Room	WA	Outside the Locker Room	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	1.750	No	31/08/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Project activities are complete, final report has been received and is being assessed.	Statewide
Strength to Strength Program	TAS	PHN - Tasmania	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	0.541	No	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Statewide
Thriving and On Track Program (formerly Kids and Family Link)	QLD	PHN - Brisbane South	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	1.500	No	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Bonner
Edith Cowan University Health Centre Yanchep (previously Yanchep Health Campus)	WA	Edith Cowan University	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	10.400	No	30/09/2026	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Pearce
Royal Far West National Paediatric Telecare Service	National	Royal Far West	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	19.700	No	30/08/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	National
Cairns Tropical Enterprise Centre (previously James Cook University - Cairns Tropical Enterprise Centre)	QLD	James Cook University	CHHP	Combined	Grant	60.000	No	15/03/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Early Works	Herbert
Monash University/Peninsula Health – Health Futures Hub	VIC	Peninsula Health and Monash University	CHHP	Combined	Grant	32.000	Yes	31/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Dunkley
Aikenhead Centre for Medical Discovery	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	30.000	Yes	31/12/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Main Works	Melbourne
National Headspace Network – Waitlist Reduction Growth Funding	National	PHNs	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	152.000	No	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	National
Health and Wellbeing Service in Ocean Grove	VIC	Bellarine Community Health Ltd	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	6.000	No	30/05/2025 - Site A 30/06/2023 - Site B (Final Report)	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Corangamite
Sunshine Coast University, Support of the Mind and Neuroscience Thompson Institute (previously Funding for PTSD at Thompson Institute)	QLD	University of Sunshine Coast (USC)	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	2.500	No	01/04/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Fisher
Integrated Youth Services Hub Rosebud	VIC	Mornington Peninsula Shire consortia	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	1.500	Yes	18/02/2025	In progress	Yes	On Budget	Services Commenced	Flinders
Rosebud Secondary Wellness Pavilion	VIC	Rosebud Secondary College	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	0.300	No	30/11/2021 (Practical completion) 20/06/2025 (Final DUP Report)	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Practical completion achieved, in DUP.	Flinders
Partnership development of a new Statewide Eating Disorder Service facility at the Repatriation Hospital	SA	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	5.000	No	31/12/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Boothby
Prioritising Mental Health – Adult Mental Health Centres	National	PHNs	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	114.500	No	Ongoing	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	National
Youth Hub Lilydale	VIC	PHN - Eastern Melbourne	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	4.500	No	23/12/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Casey
BlueHub Project - Framework for Police and Emergency Services Mental Health	VIC	The Police Association Victoria	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	2.500	No	31/12/2023	In Progress - final report pending	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Statewide
Cardinia Youth Hub youth facility relocation and expansion project (previously My Place Youth Centre)	VIC	Cardinia Shire Council	CHHP	Infrastructure	Grant	1.500	No	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	La Trobe

Attachment A

Community Health and Hospitals Program - project report - October 2023

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) - Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian Public Sector

Project Name	State / Territory	Funding Recipient	CHHP or CHHP Associated Project	Services or Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement, PHN or Grant delivery	Budget Total ($m)	Was the project run through an EOI process? (Yes/No)	Expected Date of Project Completion	Project Status	If project is complete, was it completed on budget (Yes/No)	Budget Status	If project is not complete, sense of status	Federal Electorate
Youth Mental Health and Suicide Prevention	ACT	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Service Delivery	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	5.974	Yes	1/10/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Bean
Headspace Flying headspace	SA	PHN - Country Health SA	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	0.660	Yes	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Grey
The Mindgardens Alliance – Black Dog Institute	National	Mindgardens Neuroscience Network Limited	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	7.000	No	30/01/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	National
Community-based residential eating disorder treatment centre (ACT)	ACT	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	13.500	No	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Bean
Youth Challenge Park (previously City of Albany Youth Hub)	WA	Albany City Council	CHHP	Infrastructure	Grant	0.300	No	1/10/2024	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	O'Connor
Establishment of an Eating Disorders Treatment Centre (NSW) (4 of 4)	NSW	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	13.000	No	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Shortland
Establishment of an Eating Disorders Treatment Centre (TAS) (2 of 4)	TAS	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	10.000	No	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Clarke
Establishment of an Eating Disorders Treatment Centre (VIC) (3 of 4)	VIC	State/Territory Government	CHHP	Infrastructure	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	13.000	No	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Higgins
Eating Disorders – service delivery Butterfly EndED House	QLD	Butterfly EndEd Residential	CHHP	Combined	Grant	8.547	No	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Fisher
Youth Suicide Programs – Smiling Mind School Program	National	Smiling Minds	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	2.500	No	30/06/2023	Completed	No	Under Budget	Completion	National
Youth Suicide Programs – Raising Children Networks Supporting Parent Mental Health Literacy	National	Raising Children Network	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	1.500	No	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	National
Improved Access to Health Services in Regional, Rural and Remote Areas of North and North West Tasmania (TAZReach)	TAS	State/Territory Government	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	12.000	No	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Braddon
Fraser Coast Hospice Facility	QLD	Fraser Coast Regional Council	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	7.000	No	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	In Progress	Hinkler
Little Haven Palliative Care	QLD	Little Haven Cooloola/Sunshine Coast Palliative Care Inc.	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	0.750	No	31/07/2021	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Wide Bay
Upgrade and rebuild of the Very Special Kids Hospice (previously Very Special Kids)	VIC	Very Special Kids	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	7.500	No	31/10/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Construction	Higgins
Comprehensive genomic testing	WA	State/Territory Government - (PathWest laboratory Medicine, Nedlands WA)	CHHP	Combined	National Partnership Agreement (NPA)	19.000	Yes	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Curtin
Peter Mac – Cellular Immunotherapy	VIC	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	CHHP	Combined	Grant	80.000	No	30/06/2025	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Melbourne
Dementia Centre of Excellence (Previously Curtin University Dementia Centre of Excellence)	WA	Curtin University	CHHP Associated	Infrastructure	Grant	10.000	Yes	31/01/2026.	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Preliminaries and Planning	Swan
Sunflower House Wagga Wagga	NSW	One door mental Health (Schizophrenia Fellowship of New South Wales Ltd)	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	0.275	No	30/09/2020	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Riverina
Mates in Construction	National	MATES in Construction	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	1.240	No	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	National
Suicide Prevention Collaborative	NSW	Coordinare Limited (PHN - South Eastern NSW)	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	1.500	Yes	30/06/2022	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Cunningham
Way Back Support Services	QLD	Partners 4 Health Limited	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	1.200	No	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Petrie
Safe Spaces – alternatives to emergency departments for people in mental distress	QLD	Partners 4 Health Limited	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	10.476	Yes	30/06/2024	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Brisbane
Hope Assistance Local Tradies (HALT) suicide prevention community worker - North Western Melbourne PHN	VIC	PHN - North Western Melbourne	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	1.000	No	30/06/2023	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Melbourne
Expansion of the Choices service – reducing the treatment gap and failure to engage with care for high frequency Mental Health and Alcohol & Other Drug service users	WA	PHN - WA Primary Health Alliance	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	1.300	No	30/06/2023	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Canning (Mandurah)
Red Dust - Suicide Prevention for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children	NT	Red Dust	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	1.200	No	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Lingiari
Hope Assistance Local Tradies (HALT) suicide prevention community worker - South East Melbourne PHN	VIC	South Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network Limited	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	1.000	No	30/06/2023	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Isaacs
Youth Suicide Programs – Indigenous Suicide Prevention Leadership – Gayaa Dhuwi	National	Gayaa Dhuwi	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	7.000	No	30/06/2020	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	National
Youth Suicide Programs – Kids Helpline (yourtown)	National	Yourtown	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	4.000	No	30/06/2020	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	National
Youth Suicide Programs – Child Wellness Centre of Excellence (Ngaoara Ltd)	National	Ngaoara Ltd	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	3.000	No	30/06/2024	In progress	N/A	On Budget	Near completion	Wollongong
Youth Suicide Programs – batyr OurHerd (previously Batyrs Amplified Voices of Young People)	National	batyr OurHerd	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	2.800	No	30/06/2020	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	National
Youth Suicide Programs – Way Back Peer Support (Beyond Blue)	National	Beyond Blue	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	0.600	No	30/06/2020	Completed	No	Under Budget	Completion	National
Youth Suicide Programs – The Banksia Project	National	Various	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	0.400	No	30/06/2020	Completed	No	Under Budget	Completion	National
Youth Suicide Programs – Zero Suicide Initiative	National	Various	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	0.200	No	30/06/2020	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	National
Suicide Prevention and Recovery Centre (SPARC) St Vincent's Hospital (previously Roses in the Ocean)	NSW	Independent Community Living Australia (Surry Hills) and Roses in the Ocean	CHHP	Combined	Grant	1.250	No	31/12/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Sydney
Adapting Compassion Focused Therapy for Indigenous Community Wellbeing	National	University of Sydney	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	0.800	No	31/03/2023	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	National
St John WA Urgent Care Centres – 4 sites	WA	St John WA	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	28.000	No	31/05/2023	In Progress	N/A	On Budget	Services Commenced	Statewide
Expansion of the Choices service – reducing the treatment gap and failure to engage with care for high frequency Mental Health and Alcohol & Other Drug service users	WA	PHN - WA Primary Health Alliance	CHHP	Service Delivery	Primary Health Network (PHN) Grant	5.241	No	30/06/2023	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Canning (Mandurah)
Hospital to Home Project (Previously SANDS – Hospital to Home – Support following stillbirth)	National	Red Nose Ltd (Previously Sands Australia)	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	1.675	No	30/06/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Chisholm
DVassist (Previously Breaking the Silence - Regional WA Domestic Violence Program - 10 sites)	WA	Breaking the Silence Inc.	CHHP	Service Delivery	Grant	2.326	No	01/09/2022	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Statewide
Men's Shed Initiatives	National	Australian Men's Shed Association	CHHP Associated	Service Delivery	Grant	3.500	No	31/12/2021	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	National
Little Wings Aircraft	NSW	Little Wings	CHHP Associated	Combined	Grant	0.700	No	31/07/2021	Completed	Yes	On Budget	Completion	Blaxland

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000104

Ethical behaviour of the Department of Health and Aged Care

Written

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

1   According to the Department of Finance, probity is evidence of ethical behaviour, and can be defined as complete and confirmed integrity, uprightness and honesty in a particular process. While agencies can often demonstrate the absence of fraud, corruption, illegal activity or conflicts of interest, does a mere absence of illegality, fraud, conflicts or corruption actually indicate probity? How does the Department of Health and Aged Care (Health) assess whether it is acting in a way that is right and proper, not just in a way that is technically and legally correct?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Aged Care's (the Department) Assurance Framework (the Framework) provides guidance to all staff on ensuring outcomes are being met in an efficient, accountable, and ethical manner. The Framework identifies areas of assurance need, advice on conducting assurance and communicating findings to the Department's Executive. The Framework has improved assurance literacy in the Department, promoted a culture of probity and increased the frequency of and value derived from, assurance reviews. More information is provided on the Framework in IQ23-000105.

The Department has a risk-based Internal Audit Work Program (IAWP) that is developed through an annual assurance mapping process. The effect of the IAWP is to hold all staff accountable and promote ethical decision making as well as legislative compliance. Since 2020, the IAWP has included internal audits examining the controls in relation to fraud management, public interest disclosure, and physical and cyber security. In addition, the IAWP has considered conflict of interest through the Department's conflict of interest framework including in relation to procurement, the membership of boards and

committees, and the procurement and contract management of IT contractors. More information is provided on the IAWP in IQ23-000105.

The Department's approach to internal assurance and audit is supported by independent external assurance such as the *Halton Review of COVID-19 Vaccine and Treatment Purchasing and Procurement* and recent Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) audit activity where procurement and conflict of interest have been examined. This included the recent audits into the National Medical Stockpile and the COVID-19 vaccination program. The Department actively monitors the implementation of all internal and ANAO recommendations to promote a culture of improvement in relation to compliance. The progress of recommendations is reported to the Audit and Risk Committee and Executive Committee.

The Department ensures all staff are aware of their legal and ethical obligations through its 'Essential Learning Program'. This program includes two modules focused specifically on integrity and ethical conduct, titled 'Fraud Essentials' and 'Integrity Essentials'. These cover topics such as: the APS Code of Conduct, identifying and managing conflicts of interest, and responding to fraud. As outlined in the Department's Essential Learning Policy, staff must complete these modules within 30 days of commencement and every 24 months thereafter. Staff receive automated notifications before this learning is due to be completed. The Department's Executive Committee consider Essential Learning compliance each quarter, and all Departmental SES officers have access to real-time compliance reporting.

Underpinning the above frameworks and programs is Department's Integrity Framework of policies, procedures, programs and committees designed to promote a pro-active integrity culture which supports ethical behaviour in the discharge of our roles and responsibilities.

The Department's Integrity Framework is informed by the Commonwealth Integrity Maturity Framework, which is a set of 8 integrity principles derived from key Commonwealth integrity laws, policies and procedures. Examples of the Department's integrity approach, including tools and policies, against each of the integrity principles is set out below.

1. Values and Code of Conduct
   - Performance (PDS) Policy includes values and behaviours and is supported by the performance Management Toolkit and Managing Underperformance Policy and Procedures
   - Guidelines for Handling Suspected and Determined Breaches of the APS Code of Conduct
   - Procedures for determining breaches of the APS Code of Conduct and Deciding Sanctions (Section 15(3) of the Public Service Act 1999)
2. Integrity knowledge and performance management
   - Induction program (including integrity and requiring completion of the Essential Learning Training program within specified timeframes
   - Essential Learning Policy which requires completion of training packages (including Integrity and Fraud modules) and regular refresher courses.
3. Integrity policies, resources and systems

- Gifts and Hospitality Policy and Register
- Conflict of Interest Policy and resources including
    - Conflict of Interest Toolkit
    - Declaration of Interests and Annual SES Declaration of Interests
    - Managing Conflicts of Interest when Ceasing Employment Policy
    - Deed of Undertaking in relation to Confidential Information and Conflicts of Interest (Committee Members)
    - Outside Employment Policy and Notification of Outside Employment form
- Preventing Bullying and Harassment Policy
- Public Interest Disclosure Policy and Framework
- National Anti-Corruption Commission Framework (including procedures to support effective identification, triaging, assessment and referral to NACC), Delegations (to support the referral obligations), Guidance and FAQs
- Fair Treatment and Review of Actions Guidelines
- Complaints Management Policy

4. Integrity risk management and integrity controls

- Risk Management Policy and Framework

5. Prevent, detect and manage fraud and corruption

- Fraud and Corruption Control Plan
- Enterprise Fraud and Corruption Risk Assessment

6. Integrity in public resource management

- Accountable Authority Instructions and Finance Business Rules
- HR and Financial Delegations
- Grants Management Toolkit
- Templates for procurement, contract management and grants
- Managing procurement risk guidance
- Confidentiality Conflicts of Interest, Privacy and Secrecy Deed Poll (Contractors)
- Travelling on Official Business Policy

7. Protect people, information and assets

- Health Security Policy Framework
- Security Risk Management Policy
- Personnel Security Policy
- ICT Acceptable Use Policy
- Information Security Policy
- Insider Threat Program

8. Monitor and evaluate organisational integrity

- Assurance Framework and IAWP (see above and IQ23-000105).
- Executive Committee oversight and reporting

- Audit and Risk Committee

- The Security, Workforce Integrity and Assurance Committee (SWIAC) which provides a cohesive and coordinated approach to managing security and workforce integrity risks

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000105

Ability to evaluate compliance, intent and requirements of the department's regulatory frameworks

Written

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

2   The ANAO has found evidence the Australian public sector regularly fails to comply with both the intent and the requirements of its regulatory frameworks. How does Health evaluate how it is positively acting according to the intent of the law and thus demonstrating probity?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) has several mechanisms to ensure it is acting according to the intent of the law. In addition to the matters referred in response to IQ23-000104, the department has a risk-based Internal Audit Work Program (IAWP) which is informed by a comprehensive assurance mapping process. The IAWP has the capacity and flexibility to add topics where emerging high-risk areas are identified. The IAWP hold all staff accountable for compliance with business rules and legislation as well as ethical and accountable behaviours in the conduct of business. The department also actively monitors the implementation of audit recommendations to embed a continuous improvement culture. The progress of all recommendations are reported to the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) and Executive Committee (EC).

The department's Assurance Framework (the Framework) promotes an effective system of risk management and internal control to support the achievement of outcomes. The Framework provides guidance to all staff on identifying areas of assurance need, conducting assurance, implementing any recommendations identified, and communicating this to the department's Executive. The Framework is supported by the department's service offering supporting business areas to engage an Internal Audit and Assurance provider to undertake 'real time' assurance advice and guidance.

The department's approach to grants administration has been strengthened by several recent improvements. These include strengthening the content of guidance and templates to support compliance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 and the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines 2017 (CGRGs) as well as meeting ethical standards in the administration of grants. The Accountable Authority Instruction and Finance Business Rules in relation to financial obligations and accountability have also been updated to clarify officials' financial management responsibilities. In addition, the Grants Assurance Program reviews grant administration against mandatory requirements and the principles set out in the CGRGs with the results reported to the EC.

The department operates a responsive financial governance framework, which promotes the efficient, effective, economical, and ethical use of resources. The department minimises non-compliance through layered and integrated controls, including training and guidance, extensive financial reporting and tiered governance, the publication of legislation and rules, regular review of delegation schedules and Accountable Authority Instructions which are available to staff to inform decision making. The department's financial framework includes comprehensive internal assurance programs over procurement and grant processes, which are supported by regular internal and external audit activities. This is a risk-based approach to compliance, with a combination of self-reporting and focused review. All identified instances of non-compliance are reported to both the Audit and Risk Committee and the Executive Committee. The department is also currently conducting a Review of Financial Controls and Assurance to identify further opportunities for improvement in relation to identifying, assessing and reporting non-compliance with finance law. The review is scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2024.

The department has procurement controls including providing business areas with guidance on ensuring probity throughout the procurement process. In addition, it is mandatory that procurement activities over $80,000 engage with the department's Procurement Advisory Service (PAS) from the planning phase to ensure compliance, probity and value for money considerations are appropriately made. The Procurement Assurance Program tests a sample of procurement activities on a quarterly basis against the procurement framework, including the adequacy of the Probity Plan and probity register, with the results reported to the EC.

When the department receives third party reviews of how it complies with legal, probity or ethical obligations it assesses the review and implements changes to address the issues raised. This includes judgments and decision of courts and tribunals, statutory reviews of its programs by entities such as the Auditor-General and reviews undertaken by consultants.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000106

Outcomes-based performance management system

Written

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

3   Does Health have an outcomes-based performance management system? How does Health balance the focus on outcomes with the risk this brings for compliance with the intent of the law?

Answer:

The PGPA Act and Commonwealth Performance Framework require the Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) to measure and report on the performance of its programs to demonstrate to the public and the Parliament whether the use of public resources is achieving meaningful results.

The department's Performance Measurement and Reporting Framework provides a strategy to guide effective performance measurement and reporting of programs and policies in the Department. The Framework, along with a range of supporting material, provides guidance to officers in fulfilling the department's legislative obligations to measure and assess performance in achieving its purpose. This includes ensuring that program managers, accountable authorities, Ministers, the Parliament and the public are able to use performance information to draw clear linkages between the use of public resources and the results achieved.

The Framework:

- outlines the department's approach to performance measurement and reporting, based on statutory requirements and good practice, focusing on compliance with section 16EA of the PGPA Rule

- provides guidance on how to measure and report on the performance of departmental programs, projects and activities

- establishes a protocol for the department to appropriately measure and report on performance at all levels

- supports the department to fulfil internal and external accountabilities; and

- facilitates continuous improvement to performance measurement and reporting.

The department's Performance Measurement and Reporting Framework is designed to promote and ensure compliance with all legislative requirements.

In designing and delivering programs to achieve their intended purpose, the department seeks at all times to abide by relevant laws. The frameworks and mechanisms to ensure this happens is outlined in other responses, including IQ23-000105; IQ23-000109, and IQ23-000111.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000107

Probity concerns that arise from contraventions of the law

Written

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

4   What is Health's view on how acting in 'good faith' mitigates the probity concerns that might arise from contraventions of the law?

Answer:

Adhering to Finance Law is an obligation which the Department of Health and Aged Care takes seriously and strives to uphold in all circumstances.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000108

Processes of breaches to probity and ethics requirements

Written

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

5   What is the process for informing Health's executive of breaches to probity and ethics requirements?

6   How are senior staff held to account for driving ethical performance in Health?

Answer:

5:        The Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) takes its obligations in relation to internal fraud, corruption and other misconduct allegations seriously and has processes in place to ensure all allegations are appropriately managed and investigated. Further processes and delegations are now in place to ensure compliance with section 33 of the *National Anti-Corruption Commission Act* (NACC) in making mandatory referrals to the NACC where potential serious or system corruption is identified or reported. This includes having in place an accountable SES officer to oversee coordination and briefing of the Secretary and Chief Operating Officer on internal fraud and corruption matters, as well as referrals to the NACC. Information about alleged misconduct by employees is handled on a need-to-know basis. Relevant members of the Department's executive are briefed on matters involving senior staff.

The *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) requires the accountable authority of entities to ensure the proper use and management of public resources (section 15), and to establish and maintain an appropriate system of risk oversight and internal control for the entity (section 16). Proper use in relation to use or management of public resources means any such use must be efficient, effective, economical, and ethical (section 8).

The department's controls and assurance frameworks have been developed to identify and assess non-compliance with finance law, specifically the requirements of the PGPA Act. The frameworks include instructions, business rules, guidance, systems and business controls,

programs of assurance and responsibility on all officials to self-report. Instances of non-compliance are recorded in a centralised system which prompts corrective advice to be provided on key aspects of the non-compliance (including proper use).

Instances of non-compliance with finance law identified through the controls and assurance frameworks are assessed by the department's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and reported to the department's Audit and Risk Committee (ARC). Advice provided includes an assessment on instances which may be considered 'significant' non-compliance with finance law (this includes not meeting ethical requirements in the use and management of public resources, if applicable). Upon review by ARC members advice is provided by the CFO to the department's Executive Committee for consideration.

6:      SES employees are employed under Section 22 of the *Public Service Act 1999*. SES employees' terms and conditions of employment are generally provided through a Section 24 (1) determination under the *Public Service Act 1999* which outline SES employee obligations to observe, and encourage others to observe, the APS Values and Code of Conduct as provided for by the *Public Service Act 1999,* the *Public Service Regulations 1999*, the *Public Service Commissioner's Directions 2016* and departmental procedures and policies including the SES Performance Framework.

The department's SES Performance Framework (the Framework) applies to all substantive SES and equivalent (Medical Officers Level 5 and 6) employees in the Department, as well as employees who have been acting in an SES role for at least three (3) months. The Framework sets out the standards of behaviour expected of SES employees including:

- the APS Values

- the Secretaries Charter of Leadership behaviours which includes specific expectations in relation to integrity, and

- understanding and abiding by the legal principles of good financial management and building a culture of compliance with finance law across their area of responsibility.

SES employees are formally assessed against these performance expectations twice a year.

The department is currently reviewing performance procedures and policies to further strengthen how these processes drive SES performance and behaviour.

SES officers are required to make an annual declaration of interests. Any conflicts, actual or apparent, are managed in accordance with the requirements of the department's Conflicts of Interest Policy. SES employees are also required to complete the department's Essential Learning Program and retrain in the Integrity and Fraud modules every 24 months.

Any failure in relation to ethical behaviour is considered both in terms of how frameworks, policies or procedures can be improved to support ethical conduct, and whether the behaviour could be a breach of the APS Code of Conduct and/or the obligations outlined in section 35(3) of the Public Service Act 1999.

The department treats all reports or allegations of suspected misconduct seriously. For incidents involving SES officers, consideration is given to engaging an independent, external person to undertake a preliminary assessment of any issues to determine whether there is evidence of conduct which gives rise to a suspected breach of the APS Code of Conduct. That person will make recommendations as to whether and, if so, what action is required to be taken (e.g. instigation of a Code investigation, workplace investigation, counselling, formal warning or administrative action such as coaching or training).

In accordance with the department's obligations under section 64 of the *Public Service Commissioner's Directions 202*2, the Secretary (or his delegate) is required to consult with the Australian Public Service Commissioner before commencing a Code of Conduct process involving an SES employee. Where the department initiates a Code of Conduct process in relation to an SES employee, the department will engage an independent, external person to undertake the investigation and consider the need for independent, external people as breach decision-maker and sanction delegate.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000109

Breaches reported to the Minister under section 19 of the PGPA Act (over the past ten years)

Written

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

7   What are the nature of the significant breaches that have been reported to the Minister under section 19 of the PGPA Act (over the past ten years), and how did the accountable authority determine the breach was 'significant'?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) has reported instances of significant non-compliance with finance law in the Department's 2022-23 Annual Report (refer page 116 and 117). This is the first occasion where instances of non-compliance have been assessed as 'significant' in the past ten years (i.e. since the commencement of the PGPA Act).

The nature of the significant non-compliance instances reported relate to:

- the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines requirement that Grant Opportunity Guidelines must be in place before a grant is awarded. The grants were executed in 2019-20 and relate to the Community Health and Hospital Program.

- Section 83 of the Constitution which provides that no amount may be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund except under an appropriation made by law. It was identified that programs established by the department (and delivered through Services Australia as the payment agency) made payments in breach of section 83 of the Constitution. Design and implementation of the programs or elements of programs (Medicare Easyclaim, Aged Care Subsidies and fees, and verbal assignment of Medicare benefits (Telehealth)) did not appropriately consider the risk of non-compliance with section 83 of the Constitution.

- In 2020-21 the department identified and commenced rectification activities to correct administrative errors in the Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship program. In 2022-23 the department waived $51.8 million in debts as part of rectifying past administrative errors.

The Department of Finance provides relevant advice in Resource Management Guide (RMG) 214 *Notification of significant non-compliance with finance law* to support an assessment process. RMG 214 sets out criteria for significant non-compliance noting high volume, high value and/or systemic issues and consideration of risk, in particular reputational risk.

The department's accountable authority accepts the actions taken and/or administrative errors made by officers of the department did not meet public expectations.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000110

Grant opportunity guidelines

Written

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

8.   How often has Health developed grant opportunity guidelines after the recipients of grants have been announced?

9.   How is the integrity of grant opportunity guidelines maintained when grant opportunity guidelines are developed after recipients have been determined?

Answer:

8.   The Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) notes it is common for the Government to make an explicit decision to fund an organisation for a particular purpose. Announcements are often made as part of a budget process or through an election commitment. In these instances, the announcement may precede the development of Grant Opportunity Guidelines. The Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines (CGRGs) apply to specific decisions to fund an organisation for a particular purpose in the same way as they apply to other funding programs. As such the department undertakes grants processes in line with the CGRGs, including the development of Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

9.   Grant Opportunity Guidelines are developed for all grant opportunities in accordance with the CGRGs. To facilitate this, Grant Opportunity Guidelines are drafted using Department of Finance mandated templates and in line with the requirements of the CGRGs. Guidance materials are designed to support officials undertaking grants processes (including where the recipient has been announced) to ensure that the Commonwealth is achieving value for money and that the proposed grant(s) represent an efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of public resources.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000111

Developing culture of compliance with finance law

Written

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

10   Health told the ANAO it was working to build a 'strong culture of compliance with finance law' (pg 42).

a)   Why did Health not have 'a strong culture of compliance with finance law'? Who was responsible for this cultural failure?

b)   How is Health progressing on its program of increased financial literacy training?

c)   When will this training be delivered to all departmental officers?

d)   How is the external review of Health's financial controls and assurance framework progressing?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) operates a responsive financial governance framework which promotes the efficient, effective, economical, and ethical use of resources.

The department's financial framework includes comprehensive internal assurance programs over procurement and grant processes, which are supported by regular internal and external audit activities. The department's financial governance framework operates on a risk-based approach to compliance, with a combination of self-reporting and focused review. All identified instances of non-compliance are reported to both the Audit and Risk Committee and the Executive Committee.

Following the Commonwealth Auditor-General's independent performance audit of the Department of Health and Aged Care on the *Administration of the Community Health and*

Hospitals Program, the Department has taken further action to strengthen the financial governance framework and culture of compliance with finance law.

The Financial Literacy Program aims to address the identified need for improved financial literacy amongst leaders. The Program includes a set of self-paced information sessions aimed at empowering staff with the necessary knowledge to better understand their financial responsibilities at work and build financial management skills. The program provides an overview of the three pillars of Health's financial management framework which are outlined in the department's Finance Strategy:

- A strong financial controls and assurance framework;

- Providing credible and consistent financial information and advice; and

- A financial governance framework which promotes the effective and efficient use of resources.

The financial literacy training has been made available to all staff through the Department's online learning and development portal. Additional financial literacy modules are currently being developed which include Financial Delegations and Instructions, and Managing Administered Funds. Once completed these will be formally promoted throughout the Department.

The department has also engaged an external provider to conduct a Review of Financial Controls and Assurance to identify further opportunities for improvement. The Review commenced on 1 September 2023, and is being governed by a Board which meets monthly.

Introductory meetings have been held with subject matter experts across key functions. The department will review and action recommendations on a rolling basis. The review is scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2024.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000112

CGRG compliance measures

Written

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

11   Departmental officials involved in the assessment and development of funding recommendations to government formally certified their agreement to be bound by the requirements of the assessment plan and CGRGs (pg 50). Given Health was unable to provide records for several grants demonstrating CGRG compliance, including documented grant assessments, financial viability assessments, evidence supporting the consideration of constitutional and legislative authority for grants, and the basis for assessments of value with relevant money, how could departmental officials formally certify assessments were bound by the requirements of the CGRGs?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) acknowledges failures of process with respect to the recording of Community Health and Hospitals Program (CHHP) grant assessments and funding recommendations. The department's conduct at the time was not motivated by malintent, improper purpose or personal bias.

The department has since revised and significantly enhanced internal grant processes, policies and guidance over the five years following the implementation of the CHHP program. In addition, the department has strengthened both its capacity to provide complex grant advice and the range of training resources that are available to staff involved in the design and delivery of grant programs. These enhancements are designed to both promote compliance with the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines and to improve the quality of grant program delivery.

The department has also implemented a comprehensive grant assurance program. The assurance program undertakes sample testing on grants awarded by the department to ensure compliance with both internal grant policies and the broader Commonwealth Grant Policy Framework.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000113

Advice from Department of Finance and Australian Government Solicitor

Written

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

12   The ANAO report details occasions where Health sought and/or was provided advice by the Department of Finance (September 2019) and the Australian Government Solicitor (June 2019) but did not act on the advice (see pgs 40-41, 44-46, 48-50, 52). On what basis does Health determine how to act upon advice from the Department of Finance and the Australian Government Solicitor?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) approach is to seek advice from the Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) on the constitutional authority and legislative basis for a spending initiative, in accordance with section 1.14 of the Budget Process and Operational Rules (BPORs). In providing this advice the AGS considers amendments to program design, amendments to legislation or regulations, or other factors that could influence the constitutional and / or legislative basis for spending. Under standard practice the AGS advice would inform the development of the New Policy Proposal (NPP) for consideration by Cabinet, and subsequent briefs to the Minister on the approach to undertaking the grant.   Where risk is assessed as high, section 1.14 (b) requires that the NPP *'incorporate a strong case for not further mitigating constitutional risk and include an outline of the strengths and weaknesses of the options which would mitigate risk.'*

Prior to publishing a grant opportunity, the Department of Finance (Finance) requires the development of a Self-Assessed Risk Assessment (SARA). The constitutional authority and legislative basis for a grant program is included in the SARA which is provided to Finance along with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. Finance provides advice to support compliance with the mandatory elements of the Commonwealth Grants Rules and

Guidelines (CGRGs) and to promote better practice in grants administration. Feedback provided by Finance on the content of Grant Opportunity Guidelines is considered and acted on to ensure compliance with the CGRGs. Once a risk rating has been agreed by Finance the Grant Opportunity Guidelines are provided for approval by the Finance Minister (where the risk rating is high or medium) or the Portfolio Minister (where the risk is assessed as low).

Section 3.6 of the CGRGs requires that before entering into an arrangement there must be legal authority to support the arrangement. The department's briefing template for commitment approval includes identifying the legal authority for the grant, which is based on the advice provided by the AGS.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health and Aged Care

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into probity and ethics in the Australian public sector

PDR Number: IQ23-000114

Administration of grants

Written

Senator: Julian Hill

Question:

13   In November 2022, Health provided to the Minister for Health a letter for his signature addressed to the Minister for Finance. The letter suggested the creation of an additional category of grant in the CGRGs to 'support timely delivery of published and explicit decisions of Government', and the development of 'program level grant guidelines that can be re-used over subsequent years and funding rounds' (page 42). The ANAO found Health had used the rationale 'decisions of government' to administer grants in a manner that did not meet the requirements of the CGRGs and as the basis for not responding to advice from the Department of Finance (see pages 43, 44-46). On what basis could this type of additional category of grant support probity and ethics in decision making?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) considers that it is possible both to strengthen and streamline the grant policy framework. Enhancements to the grant design process could ensure that it was less administratively burdensome for funding recipients and administrators while maintaining and improving safeguards at the government decision-making level. The suggested changes were proposals only and it was not the intention of the department to rely on this approach. The department is continuing to engage in the current Department of Finance led review of the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines.