

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2010-11, 23 February 2011

Question: E11-042

OUTCOME 5: Primary Care

Topic: GP SUPER CLINICS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Colbeck asked:

- a) The Department has previously cited the 'encouragement' of linkages between GP Super Clinics and other local health services. What linkages have been established between the Devonport GP super clinic and other local health services, and how are these different to the linkages that any GP clinic can establish with local health services?
- b) Is the Devonport GP Super Clinic meeting the performance measures?
- c) If not, in what areas?
- d) Who is responsible for ensuring the Devonport Super Clinic meets its performance measures?
- e) How is the assessment carried out and how frequently will the Devonport Super Clinic be assessed during the 20 year contractual arrangement?
- f) How many GPs work at the Devonport Super Clinic?
- g) How many new GPs have commenced at the Devonport Super Clinic since July 2010?

Answer:

- a) One objective of the GP Super Clinics Program is for the GP Super Clinics to integrate with local programs and initiatives. Each Super Clinic will approach this in a way that reflects the local context and it will depend on the willingness of other agencies to engage with the GP Super Clinic.

The Devonport GP Super Clinic has integrated with a number of local, state and federal initiatives including: Immunisation programs; Healthy eating groups (dietician run, clients referred by GPs and other allied health workers); Well for Life (physiotherapists, dietician and occupational therapists working together to develop and deliver strength training programs); Fit Club – health promotion for walking groups in conjunction with The Advocate Newspaper; and Mental Health programs.

The Devonport GP Super Clinic has demonstrated a strong relationship with General Practice Training Tasmania, University of Tasmania, Rural Clinical School & Polytechnic Academy. This has facilitated the placement of medical and nursing students.

The Department is not aware of what activities other medical practices may undertake to link with local services.

- b) Performance measures relating to construction have been met. The Devonport GP Super Clinic is also required to provide annual reports during the 20-year designated use period. The report will address performance against the GP Super Clinics Program Objectives. As the Devonport GP Super Clinic commenced operations in July 2010, the first annual report will be due in July 2011.
- c) Refer above.
- d) The operator of the Devonport GP Super Clinic is responsible for ensuring that the clinic meets its performance measures.
- e) Refer to b).
- f) There are 12.3 Full Time Equivalent GPs who currently work in the Devonport GP Super Clinic.
- g) Two GPs have commenced at the Devonport GP Super Clinic since July 2010.