

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 23 February 2011

Question: E11-169

OUTCOME 10: Health System Capacity and Quality

Topic: Health and Hospitals Fund (HHF)

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) Given that the Government has entered into particular agreements regarding the Tamworth Hospital, the Port Macquarie Hospital and the Royal Hobart Hospital for specific funding to these hospitals what impact will that have on other applicants for funding?
- b) Will other, possibly more needy hospitals, receive less or no funding because of the arrangements surrounding these three hospitals?
- c) Are the Tamworth Hospital, the Port Macquarie Hospital and the Royal Hobart Hospital, which have special arrangements, guaranteed their funding under the regional round of funding?

Answer:

- a) The Government made commitments for the Royal Hobart and Port Macquarie Base Hospitals in relation to HHF funding (subject to these being found to satisfy the funding requirements). To meet its commitment to the Independent Members of Parliament, the Government made up to \$1.8 billion available for the funding round, which included the funds committed to the Royal Hobart and Port Macquarie Base Hospitals. Decisions as to the funding of other projects that were considered by the HHF Advisory Board as satisfying the HHF evaluation criteria and the Regional Priority Round additional guidance will be made by the Government as part of the 2011-12 Budget process.
- b) See a).
- c) The Government's commitments regarding the Port Macquarie Hospital and the Royal Hobart Hospital were subject to applications being assessed by the HHF Advisory Board as satisfying the HHF evaluation criteria and Regional Priority Round additional guidance.