



MINISTER FOR HEALTH

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The Hon Peter Dutton MP
Minister for Health
Parliament House
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Dear Minister

Peter

I congratulate Prime Minister Abbott and you on your recent election success. I welcome your appointment as the Minister for Health and look forward to establishing a collaborative working relationship with you.

As you would be aware, announcements were made in the election campaign on health initiatives for the Northern Territory. I would bring to your attention, in particular, the announcements on the Palmerston Hospital (an additional \$40 million) and cancer services for Katherine residents (\$500,000).

The original agreement for funding of \$70 million from the Australian Government for the Palmerston Hospital was signed by the then Australian Government Minister for Health and the Northern Territory Minister for Health in May 2012. The Agreement was created subject to the provisions of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations.

In the originally agreed timeframe, the site announcement was planned for December 2011 with operational commissioning to be completed by March 2016. You will be aware that in the interim the Northern Territory Government changed and this delayed the site announcement. On 23 August 2013, an announcement confirming the new hospital site and an additional \$40 million commitment, was made by Prime Minister Abbott and Northern Territory Chief Minister, the Hon Adam Giles MLA. I expect that the commissioning of the hospital will now occur early in 2018.

A draft variation to the agreement will now be required to increase the Australian Government's contribution for Palmerston Hospital by \$40 million and to vary the current milestones.

I also bring to your attention a commitment in May 2012 by the then Australian Government of \$11.9 million for the refurbishment of Paediatric Wards at Royal Darwin Hospital. I have recently directed the Department of Health to progress the negotiations for a formal project agreement for this project with the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

I look forward to working with you and the Abbott Government, particularly focussing on delivering outcomes for Territorians. This is particularly critical in the area of health, with Territorians continuing to experience a disproportionate burden of illness and disease.

Yours sincerely



ROBYN LAMBLEY
27 SEP 2013

The Hon. Jack Snelling M.P.

Our ref: MHA002557

10 September, 2013

Hon. P. Dutton M.P.
Minister for Health
Parliament House
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

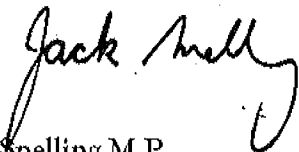
Dear Minister

The former Minister for Health, the Hon. Tanya Plibersek M.P., wrote to me on 27 July, 2013, offering South Australia an extension to the \$17.38 million Implementation Plan for Digital Technology for BreastScreen SA (the Implementation Plan), under the National Partnership Agreement on Health Infrastructure.

The Implementation Plan provides for the replacement of analogue mammography machinery with digital systems across the State and for the installation of an electronic Picture Archiving and Communication System and Client Management System. It was originally due to expire on 30 June, 2013. An extension to the Implementation Plan to 30 September, 2013, has been negotiated with the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing due to delays caused by diverting BreastScreen SA resources during 2013 towards a review into lower than expected cancer detection rates.

I am pleased to provide my formal agreement to the revised Implementation Plan and look forward to receiving the outstanding payment of \$1.258 million upon completion of the final components of this project.

Kind regards



Jack Snelling M.P.
Minister for Health and Ageing

encl: revised Implementation Plan for Digital Technology for BreastScreen SA.



**Government
of South Australia**

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The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP
Minister for Health

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Cc:			

The Hon Jack Snelling MP
Minister for Health
State Government of South Australia
GPO Box 2555
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Minister

I am writing about the Health and Hospitals Fund (HHF) project – *Digital Technology for BreastScreen South Australia*. As you would know, the HHF is designed to support strategic investment in health infrastructure as part of the Australian Government's reform agenda to equip Australia's health and hospital system for the future.

I understand that this project has experienced delays in meeting a key milestone and that the overall completion date is therefore expected to be delayed by approximately three months.

It is important that the agreement between the Commonwealth and the South Australian Government continues to accurately reflect this project's progress. On this basis officers from our respective departments have negotiated and agreed a revised Implementation Plan to capture the new completion date.

I would therefore like to formally offer you the revised Implementation Plan enclosed. Once agreed, a copy of the revised agreement will be published on the relevant Commonwealth website in line with the requirements of the Framework on Federal Financial Relations.

As you would be aware, your Implementation Plan refers to the requirements of the *Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations* that the roles of the Commonwealth and the South Australian Government must be acknowledged and recognised appropriately. Accordingly, prior agreement must be reached on the nature and content of any project, events, announcements, publicity and promotional material – including signage, hoardings and plaques.

To ensure that these requirements are satisfied, please advise my department well in advance of opportunities to acknowledge milestones and achievements of the Project.

I would like to extend to you an invitation to join with me when these acknowledgements are made at public events or functions, where we can together celebrate the achievements of the *Digital Technology for BreastScreen South Australia* project.

In addition, I would ask that any approaches by media concerning the project are also directed to Ann Smith, Assistant Secretary, Hospital Development Branch by telephone on (02) 6289 3151, or email at: ann.smith@health.gov.au. My department is able to supplement any information you provide with additional information about the HHF.

I look forward to your response at the earliest opportunity, and to working with you to ensure the successful completion of this important project.

Yours sincerely



Tanya Plibersek

Encl

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Implementation Plan for Digital Technology for BreastScreen South Australia

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

PRELIMINARIES

1. This Implementation Plan is created subject to the provisions of the National Partnership agreement on Health Infrastructure and should be read in conjunction with that Agreement. The objective in the National Partnership Agreement on Health Infrastructure is to improve the health and wellbeing of Australians through the provision of high quality physical and technological health infrastructure.
2. The funding for this project has been allocated from the Health and Hospitals Fund (HHF). The objectives of the HHF, whilst not replacing State and Territory effort, are to:
 - invest in major health infrastructure programs that will make significant progress towards achieving the Commonwealth's health reform targets; and
 - make strategic investments in the health system that will underpin major improvements in efficiency, access or outcomes of health care.
3. This proposal provides one-off capital funding to enable states and territories to replace analogue mammography machinery with digital mammography systems for the BreastScreen Australia program.

TERMS OF THIS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

4. This Implementation Plan will commence as soon as it is agreed between the Commonwealth of Australia, represented by the Minister for Health and the State of South Australia, represented by the Minister for Health.
5. This Implementation Plan will cease on completion of the project as specified in this Implementation Plan, including the acceptance of final performance reporting and processing of final payments against performance milestones specified in this Implementation Plan.
6. This Implementation Plan replaces the previous Implementation Plan for the Digital Technology for BreastScreen South Australia which was agreed on 28 March 2011.
7. This Implementation Plan may be varied by written agreement between the Ministers.
8. Either Party may terminate this agreement by providing 30 days; written notice. Where this Implementation Plan is terminated, the Commonwealth's liability to make payments to South Australia is limited to payments associated with performance milestones achieved by South Australia by the date of effect of termination of this Implementation Plan.
9. The parties to this Implementation Plan do not intend any of the provisions to be legally enforceable. However, that does not lessen the parties' commitment to the plan and its full implementation.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

10. The objective in this Implementation Plan is to assist in the roll-out of digital mammography technology for BreastScreen South Australia as part of the BreastScreen Australia program.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Role of the Commonwealth

11. The Commonwealth is responsible for reviewing South Australia's performance against the project milestones specified in this Implementation Plan and providing any consequential financial contribution to South Australia for that performance.
12. The Commonwealth is to take a leading role in ensuring the development of national standards for image and patient information transfer between BreastScreen Australia services and other relevant service providers across Australia.

Role of the South Australia

13. South Australia is responsible for all aspects of project implementation, including:
 - (a) fully funding the project, after accounting for financial contributions from the Commonwealth and any third party;
 - (b) completing the project in a timely and professional manner in accordance with this Implementation Plan;
 - (c) meeting all conditions including providing reports in accordance with this Implementation Plan;
 - (d) undertaking all necessary tender/funding process to acquire the technology. This may include using existing tender processes undertaken within other jurisdictions;
 - (e) providing training for staff to support safe, effective and consistent use of the digital technology;
 - (f) funding all ongoing operational costs throughout the life of the technology, and the cost of replacing any technology purchased through this project; and
 - (g) implementing any changes or updates to the technology to meet the requirements for national technology configurations and standards for digital mammography technology and systems as and, when agreed by the Australian Population Health Development Principal Committee's (APHDPC) Screening Subcommittee, to support national interoperability. South Australia is responsible for any costs associated with meeting any such nationally agreed requirements.
14. South Australia is responsible for ensuring that all digital mammography technology purchased:
 - (a) meets the national standards endorsed by the APHDPC Screening Subcommittee, National eHealth Transition Authority (NEHTA) and/or Standards Australia for the transmission of images and patient information;
 - (b) meets BreastScreen Australia National Accreditation Standards;
 - (c) enables the electronic collection, storage and transmission of client information and mammography images in accordance with the national standards endorsed by the APHDPC Screening Subcommittee, NEHTA and/or Standards Australia;
 - (d) has the capacity to accept and transfer mammography images and client information to and from other jurisdictions; and
 - (e) aligns with national standards or configurations as and when approved by the APHDPC Screening Subcommittee developed through the course of this project under the direction of the Department of Health and Ageing.

15. South Australia must provide advice to the Department of Health and Ageing of the anticipated date of installation of any technology or upgrades at least four weeks prior to the event.

SHARED ROLES

16. Both Parties will meet the requirements of Schedule E, Clause 26 of Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations, by ensuring that prior agreement is reached on the nature and content of any events, announcements, promotional material or publicity relating to activities under the Agreement, and that the roles of both Parties will be acknowledged and recognised appropriately.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

17. The maximum financial contribution to be provided by the Commonwealth for the project is \$17,380,000 payable in accordance with performance milestones set out in Table 1. All payments are exclusive of GST.

Table 1: Performance milestones and associated payments

Performance milestone	Due date	Amount
(i) Agreement on the Implementation Plan by Health Ministers	30 March 2011	N/A
(ii) Installation of digital at the BreastScreen SA's Elizabeth clinic	30 May 2011	\$2,650,000*
(iii) Installation of digital at the BreastScreen SA's City, Ardale and Marion Screening Clinics.	30 June 2012	\$7,030,000*
(iv) Installation of digital at the BreastScreen SA's Frome Road Training Centre.		
(v) Installation of digital at the BreastScreen SA's, Wayville, Mobile 3 and Nearlunga Screening Clinics and Wayville Assessment Clinic.	30 May 2013	\$6,442,000
(vi) Confirmation of installation of Medical Equipment (Mammography Units and associated equipment) at all relevant sites.		
(vii) Installation of the Picture Archiving and Communication System	30 May 2013	\$1,000,000
(viii) Installation of the Client Management System and submission of the final report	30 September 2013	\$258,000

*Funds already paid

18. Any Commonwealth financial contribution payable will be processed by the Commonwealth Treasury and paid to the State Treasury in accordance with the payment arrangements set out in Schedule D of the *Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations*.

BUDGET

19. The overall project budget (exclusive of GST) is set out in Table 2.

Table 2: Overall project budget (\$ million)

Expenditure item	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total
Completion of Year 1 milestones	2,650				2,650
Completion of Year 2 milestones		7,030			7,030
Completion of Year 3 milestones			7,442		7,442
Completion of Year 4				0,258	0,258
Total	2,650	7,030	7,442	0,258	17,380

Notes: The figures above are rounded to the nearest \$100,000. For figures to the nearest dollar see Table 1.

20. Having regard to the estimated costs of projects specified in the overall project budget, South Australia will not be required to pay a refund to the Commonwealth if the actual cost of the project is less than the agreed estimated cost of the project. Similarly, South Australia bears all risk should the costs of a project exceed the estimated costs. The Parties acknowledge that this arrangement provides the maximum incentive for South Australia to deliver projects cost-effectively and efficiently.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING

21. South Australia will provide performance reports to the Commonwealth to demonstrate its achievement of performance milestones set out in Table 1.
22. Each performance report is to contain the following information:
 - a) a description of actual performance of South Australia in the period to date against the project milestones;
 - b) promotional activities undertaken in relation to, and media coverage of, the project during the reporting period;
 - c) a description of the work that will be undertaken to complete the remaining project milestones and any expected promotional opportunities during the next reporting period;
 - d) confirmation of the technologies adherence with existing and emerging specifications and standards endorsed by NEHTA and/or Standards Australia and BreastScreen Australia National Accreditation Standards, and the capacity for this technology to be modified to suit future standards or configurations as and when agreed by the Australian Population Health Development Principal Committee's Screening Subcommittee.

23. The final project report is due within 60 Business Days of the completion of the project or termination of this Implementation Plan.
24. The final project report will be a stand-alone document that can be used for public information dissemination purposes regarding the project and must:
 - a) describe the conduct, benefits and outcomes of the project as a whole;
 - b) evaluate the project, including assessing the extent to which the objective in this Implementation Plan has been achieved and explaining why any aspects were not achieved; and
 - c) include a discussion of any other matters relating to the project, which the Commonwealth notifies South Australia should be included in the final project report at least 30 days before it is due.



**Deputy Premier of Western Australia
Minister for Health**

Our Ref: 25-35455

The Hon Peter Dutton MP
Minister for Health
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600


Dear Minister


Your predecessor, Tanya Plibersek gave a positive response to my request to extend projects under the National Partnership Agreement on Hospital Health Workforce Reform (HHWR); namely the Bunbury Emergency Department upgrade and the Anatomical Pathology system improvements.

Ms Plibersek also agreed to amend the interim National Elective Surgery Target (NEST) Part 1 for Category 2 and 3 for 2013 and 2014 under the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services (IPHS), as per my previous correspondence.

A formal proposal outlining variations to Schedule E of the IPHS to continue subacute services established under HHWR will be provided to you in the very near future.

I am looking forward to being able to work with you towards ongoing improved health outcomes for all Western Australians through the National Partnership Agreements for HHWR and IPHS.

Yours sincerely


Dr Kim Hames MLA
**DEPUTY PREMIER
MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

1 OCT 2013

Document 4



Minister for Health

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The Hon Peter Dutton MP
Federal Minister for Health
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600


Dear Minister

I refer to the Federal Coalition's announcement in December 2012 supporting the completion of research into the possible health effects of wind farms on residents and communities.

I receive regular correspondence from Victorians living in the vicinity of wind farms who report adverse health effects. Unfortunately, there is a paucity of research available to enhance the community's understanding of this matter and inform appropriate Government actions and policy development. I consider that a national approach to research is needed.

Accordingly, I would be delighted to lend my support to the Federal Coalition's proposal by offering a \$100,000 contribution towards an independent and comprehensive research program into the health effects of wind farms led by the National Health and Medical Research Council or else a newly established Expert Panel.

In establishing the research program, you may find it helpful to be apprised of Victoria's work in this area. In early 2013, my Department convened a roundtable of researchers and experts to discuss wind farms and possible health effects. More recently, it provided support for a proposal from the University of Adelaide to study the social and health effects of wind farms on local communities. I understand that this proposal is currently under consideration by the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA).

I would welcome an opportunity to discuss this matter further with you at your convenience.

Yours sincerely


Hon. David Davis MP
Minister for Health

20 Feb 2013

