

QUESTION

The Hon. RICK COLLESS: Can you tell me how many of these buses have been on the road over the years, say, from 2003-04 to currently?

ANSWER

The Cancer Institute NSW took over program management of the BreastScreen NSW Program on 1 July 2005. At that time, there were 15 BreastScreen NSW mobile vans on the road.

Since July 2005, one mobile van was decommissioned as it was considered not able to support a digital mammography machine. In addition, two mobile vans are currently in storage following the opening of several new fixed sites. Structural and mechanical investigations of these two vans will be carried out to assess their suitability for upgrading to digital radiography technology.

At present, there are 12 mobile vans on the road providing BreastScreen NSW services to women, visiting approximately 160 locations across NSW.

The BreastScreen NSW Program is in the process of constructing two new mobile vans, and these will be equipped with digital radiography technology. The new mobile vans are expected to commence screening around November/December 2010.