

**Question on Notice  
No. 278  
Asked on 7 March 2006**

MR ROBERTS asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)-

**QUESTION:**

How can the Government's Health Action Plan help improve the delivery of health services to my constituents?

**ANSWER:**

Brisbane residents accessing public health services in the Nudgee electorate will benefit from additional funding of \$6.4 billion across the State in just over five years – provided through the Health Action plan - to drive statewide renewal and reform of Queensland's public health system.

Specific funding identified in the mini budget for the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Royal Children's Hospital and surrounding services includes:

- \$81.7 million for cancer services in just over five years, including \$7.7 million in 2005-06;
- \$13.8 million for additional intensive care beds in just over five years, including \$2.3 million in 2005-06;
- \$60 million in funding for emergency departments in just over five years, including \$8.9 million in 2005-06;
- \$11.7 million for additional elective surgery in just over five years at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, including \$1.1 million in 2005-06;
- \$12 million for cardiac services over five years at RBWH, commencing in 2006-07;
- \$4.7 million for mental health services over five years, commencing in 2006-07; and
- \$60 million in just over five years to target priority health service pressures in the region, including \$10 million in 2005-06.

Specific funding identified in the mini budget for the Prince Charles Hospital and Health Service District includes:

- \$5.3 million for cancer services over five years, commencing in 2006-07;
- \$3 million for additional intensive care beds in just over five years, including \$500,000 in 2005-06;
- \$660,000 in funding for emergency departments in just over five years, including \$60,000 in 2005-06;
- \$24 million for cardiac services in just over five years, including \$3.3 million in 2005-06;
- \$5.4 million for mental health services in just over five years, including \$60,000 in 2005-06; and
- \$14 million in just over five years to target priority health service pressures in the region, including \$2 million in 2005-06.

Constituents of the Nudgee electorate will also benefit from:

- a share in \$44.3 million over five years for renal services across the State with \$10.9 million for the central area of the State, including North Brisbane and surrounding regions;
- a share in \$127 million to be provided across the State for development and training for our doctors, nurses and allied health workforce and additional specialist training places over five years; and
- a share in significant further funding over five years, which will be targeted to health services based on a Statewide Health Services Plan to be developed in 2006. This funding amounts to \$500 million in just over five years, including \$50.6 million in 2006-07.

The Beattie Government has delivered the single biggest funding injection of any Government department or service area in our State's history and Nudgee residents will share in the massive benefits.

Reforms toward a new health system have already started with an immediate response of \$547.6 million in 2005-06. More funding will be identified and allocated for the Nudgee electorate beyond 2006-07 when a Statewide Health Services Plan is developed and implemented in 2007.

The Health Action Plan sets out the Beattie Government's commitment to retain and strengthen our health workforce by containing unprecedented wage increases for doctors, nurses and allied health professionals. We are seeking to employ approximately 1,200 additional doctors, nurses, allied health and professional staff in our public health system by the end of 2006-07, delivering new and enhanced services. As at the end of February 2006, an additional 190 medical staff, 811 nursing staff and 298 allied health/professionals/scientists had been recruited.

All Queenslanders will benefit from a beefed up statewide Health Commission which will be armed with an additional \$5 million in recurrent expenditure to better monitor Queensland Health's performance and improve responses to complaints.