

Question on Notice
No. 703
Asked on 10 May 2006

DR FLEGG asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)—

QUESTION:

- (1) How many public elective surgery cases have been completed within private hospitals across the State over the last three years reported for each year separately?
- (2) Are public elective surgery patients who end up having their surgery in a private hospital included in the waiting lists data that his department publishes quarterly as an admission?

ANSWER:

- (1) A total of 894 patients from public hospital waiting lists were treated by private facilities under contract with Queensland Health in 2003-04 using election commitment funding.

A total of 647 patients from public hospital waiting lists were treated by private facilities under contract with Queensland Health in 2004-05 using election commitment funding.

In 2005-06, election commitment funding of \$1.6 million was allocated to provide approximately 630 public patients with cataract operations within private facilities under contract with Queensland Health.

Through recent waiting list initiatives, additional 'one off' funding of \$20 million has been made available for Districts to reduce the number of 'long wait' patients. As part of this process a further 300 patients (approximately) have been targeted for treatment within the private sector.

- (2) Public elective surgery patients who end up having their surgery in a private hospital are included in the Quarterly Publication of the *Elective Surgery Waiting Times Report* as a 'removal' from the waiting list. Only patients treated within public facilities are included in the *Report* as 'admissions' from the waiting list.