

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 1807**  
**Asked on 1 November 2007**

MRS CUNNINGHAM asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)-

**QUESTION:**

In relation to patients from the postcodes 4680, 4694 and 4695 (electorate of Gladstone)—

How many mental health patients have been admitted to either the secure mental health unit in Rockhampton or to the Rockhampton Base Hospital for 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007 to present (reported separately)?

**ANSWER:**

The hub and spoke structure of Mental Health Services in Central Queensland ensure that the vast majority of consumers are provided with the community-based support they need to stay within their own community. Funding has increased significantly over the past five years so that additional clinical staff have been able to improve community services in the Gladstone area. The number of full-time equivalent staff has increased from eight to 16.

Over 240 people within the Gladstone area receive services from the Community Mental Health Service at any one time. In the month of October 2007, 1,537 provisions of service were delivered by the Service.

Of the 240 users of the Service, a small number require intensive treatment that can only be delivered by a specialist unit that is purpose-built and staffed with specialist staff. The number of mental health patients admitted to Rockhampton Hospital from the postcodes 4680, 4694 and 4695 (electorate of Gladstone) for the years in question are set out in the table below:

	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08 (7 Nov 2007)</b>
Number of patients	139	134	49