

Question on Notice
No. 1776
Asked on 13 November 2008

MRS STUCKEY asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Needle Syringe Program at Palm Beach—

- (1) Has there been any staffing increase at this facility in the last 12 months and is there any planned for in the 2008-09 budget?
- (2) What are the consumable costs for this facility (listed individually)?
- (3) How many clients has this facility serviced since 30 September 2007 to 31 October 2008 (listed separately by month)?
- (4) How many needles have been issued by this facility since 30 September 2007 to 31 October 2008 (listed separately by month)?

ANSWER:

- (1) There has been no increase in staffing levels, and there is no planned increase in the 2008-09 budget.
- (2) Clinical consumables (needles, syringes, disposal units) do not incur a cost to the Gold Coast Health Service District as these are supplied by Queensland Needle and Syringe program. Some miscellaneous supplies incur a cost of approximately \$2,000 per annum.
- (3) 4,095 visits were made to this service between 1 October 2007 and 31 October 2008:

Month	Total
October 2007	393
November 2007	367
December 2007	267
January 2008	239
February 2008	209
March 2008	251
April 2008	284
May 2008	284
June 2008	594
July 2008	311
August 2008	319
September 2008	274
October 2008	303

(4) There have been 117,873 needles issued between 1 October 2007 and 31 October 2008:

Month	Total
October 2007	7,425
November 2007	9,002
December 2007	7,021
January 2008	8,076
February 2008	5,897
March 2008	8,530
April 2008	8,208
May 2008	8,292
June 2008	15,533
July 2008	9,998
August 2008	10,450
September 2008	8,151
October 2008	11,290