

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 636**  
**Asked on 29 April 2008**

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

QUESTION:

With respect to Queenslanders who may be in the final stages of life because of a terminal illness—

Will the Government support the establishment of a hospice on the Sunshine Coast?

ANSWER:

The Government is committed to providing a dedicated 10 bed palliative care unit at Caloundra Health Service due for completion by December 2008.

In addition to the district's current palliative care services, Queensland Health also contracts Cittimani, a non-Government organisation, to provide community nursing care for approximately 100 patients annually. Blue Care provides the bulk of community-based care via brokerage arrangements.

Queensland Health recognises a need in palliative care services for patients who do not require acute care services but are not well enough to live at home.

I am aware the formation of a hospice facility is being advanced by a community group and I wish the Sunshine Coast Community Hospice well in this endeavour. Hospice services are not typically provided by Queensland Health.

The district already works to develop cooperative relationships with various community groups and supports the concept of a hospice facility on the Sunshine Coast.