

Question on Notice
No. 703
Asked on 16 October 2013

MR KNUTH asked the Minister for Health (MR SPRINGBORG)-

QUESTION:

Will the Minister reveal the numbers of eligible patients on emergency and general waiting lists at the Kirwan Dental Clinic this financial year?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Dalrymple for his question.

I would draw to the Member's attention that in February 2013, there were 62,513 Queenslanders who had been waiting on public dental lists for more than two years. I am pleased to advise that as a consequence of the LNP Government's targeted strategy, as of September 2013, this has been reduced to 13,722.

I am advised that as at 18 October 2013, there are a total of 1,730 patients who are active on the general waitlist. Of this total, 672 have been contacted within the past four weeks to be offered a general outsource voucher.

I am further advised that as at 18 October 2013, there is one patient waiting for emergency treatment. This patient has not exceed recommended waiting times and attempts have been made to contact this patient to offer an appointment.

The waitlist numbers provided above relate to patients who are active on 'Townsville Dental Clinic' general and emergency waitlists and this includes the Kirwan Dental Clinic as well as the North Ward Dental Clinic.

For the information of the Member, I would point out that Queensland Health publishes on the internet public dental waiting time data which shows waiting times for all dental clinics across Queensland for the various categories of dental examination and treatment.