

Question on Notice
No. 173
Asked on 18 March 2014

MS MILLARD asked the Minister for Health (MR SPRINGBORG)-

QUESTION:

What information is available on plans for the next phase development of the rehabilitation and transitional care facility at the Brighton Health Campus?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Sandgate for her question.

The rehabilitation facility at Brighton Health Campus has many positive benefits for the community. Rehabilitation is focused on returning patients to their independence and quality of life. The team of health professionals works together with the patient and their family to assist the patient to achieve their goals. As the largest free standing rehabilitation facility in Queensland, the Brighton Rehabilitation Service works with a range of patients. This includes patients who have had a stroke, spinal cord injury, head injury, broken hip etc. The patients who are transferred to the service have varying care needs that require the care of a multi-disciplinary team and have completed the acute phase of their patient journey.

These are patients who would otherwise occupy acute beds due to being unable to discharge safely to their home or aged care facility. The majority of patients are discharged safely as a result of the service, thus preventing them from readmission to hospital or being prematurely admitted to an aged care facility.

The service at Brighton admitted more than 600 patients in the last financial year and had a monthly average of greater than 1,000 occupied bed days. The average length of stay for patients is 30 days. This equates to an average of 18,000 bed days saved in an acute facility.

The service admits patients from at least 10 acute facilities within the Metro North Hospital and Health Service, as well as some patients from the surrounding health services. These include but are not limited to: Holy Spirit Northside, Peninsula Private, Caboolture Private, St Andrews and the Mater Hospital.

Strategically, Metro North Hospital and Health Service are at present reviewing their Health Service plans. This is anticipated to be completed by the latter half of 2014. The purpose of developing the health service plan is to enable Metro North Hospital and Health Service to have a considered and consistent approach to future service development. The planning process will involve considering the needs of the community and patients, understanding population projections, and models of care provision of high quality care that is effective and efficient. This work will be undertaken in consultation with clinicians and community partners.

Subacute and rehabilitation services are an important part of the overall patient journey, allowing step-down from acute and to progress the patient back home. Metro North Hospital and Health Service will continue to invest in these services on Brighton Campus and flex as needed.