

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 512**  
**Asked on 6 June 2014**

MRS MILLER asked the Minister for Health (MR SPRINGBORG)-

**QUESTION:**

With reference to all aged care places that Queensland Health is the approved provider -

- (1) Where are these aged care places located?
- (2) What level and type of care is associated with each place?
- (3) How is the funding for these aged care places calculated and allocated?

**ANSWER:**

I thank the Honourable Member for Bundamba for her question.

I wish to emphasise that the funding and regulation of residential aged care services, including the allocation of funded residential aged care places, is the responsibility of the Commonwealth Government.

- (1) As at 30 June 2013, there were 33,293 operational residential aged care places across Queensland. Of these, 1,133 (or 3.4%) were operated by eight Queensland Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

The locations of these residential aged care places is outlined in Table 1 (see Attachment 1).

The transition of residential aged care places from public operated facilities to the non-government sector will ensure that HHSs can concentrate on their core business of delivering public hospital and health services for the benefit of Queenslanders of all ages.

As stated previously, the Commonwealth Government is responsible for aged care, not the State. The Queensland Government through HHSs may, in some instances, continue to provide residential aged care services in those limited circumstances where there is no other alternative provider or where the non-government providers are unable or unwilling to provide care to certain clients. Where there are difficulties accessing residential aged care places, this may cause delays in the discharge of older patients from public hospitals and have flow on effects for the rest of the acute hospital system.

- (2) Predominantly, residential aged care places in public facilities have catered for older people with high care needs.
- (3) Residential aged care places are funded from a mix of subsidies paid by the Commonwealth Government and contributions from residents based on their ability to pay. The Commonwealth Government uses the Aged Care Funding Instrument (ACFI) as the means of allocating its subsidies to approved residential aged care providers. Information about the ACFI is publicly available at <http://www.health.gov.au/acfi>.

These subsidies vary according to the particular needs of the individual resident based on factors such as the level of assistance each resident requires to perform activities of daily living, (e.g. bathing, dressing and toileting) and whether there are any behavioural issues or complex health care requirements.

The amount a resident will contribute to the cost of their aged care may vary according to:

- when they entered the aged care home;
- their income and assets at that point in time;
- their pensioner status; and
- the level of care they require.

The application of subsidies and user fees and charges, (including the assessment of financial hardship), are governed by the *Aged Care Act 1997*, the associated *Aged Care Principles* and the Commonwealth Department of Social Services.

The Queensland Government through the HHSs also contribute to the operation of these services due to a range of factors including the level of care required by residents and the staffing numbers required to provide this care and the small size of some facilities. Queensland Government residential aged care facilities generally provide care in areas where there are few if any alternative providers or for residents where non-government providers are unable to provide care due to the resident's high or complex care requirements.

Hospital and Health Service	Facility	Available Places at 1 July 2013 (number)
<b>Central Queensland</b>	Eventide Home Rockhampton	80
	North Rockhampton Nursing Centre	100
<b>Darling Downs</b>	Dr E A F McDonald Nursing Home – Oakey	71
	Forest View Residential Care Facility – Wondai	46
	Karingal Nursing Home – Dalby	80
	Milton House – Miles	14
	Mt Lofty Nursing Home – Toowoomba	56
	The Oaks Nursing Home - Warwick	40
<b>Metro North</b>	Ashworth House - Zillmere	28
	Cooinda House – Kippa-Ring	60
	Eventide Nursing Home Sandgate	37
<b>Metro South</b>	Redlands Residential Care - Cleveland	128
<b>Southwest</b>	Waroona Multipurpose Centre - Charleville	45
	Westhaven Nursing Home - Roma	40
<b>Sunshine Coast</b>	Glenbrook - Nambour	32
<b>Townsville</b>	Eventide Charters Towers	110
	Parklands Residential Aged Care Facility - Townsville	70
<b>Wide Bay</b>	Yaralla Place - Maryborough	96
<b>TOTAL PLACES</b>		<b>1,133</b>