

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 72**  
**Asked on 15 February 2017**

MR MADDEN asked the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services (HON C R DICK) –

Will the Minister advise on the BreastScreen Queensland mobile service in my electorate of Ipswich West?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for his question.

The mobile BreastScreen service van operating within the West Ipswich electorate visits five locations, Riverlink Shopping Centre, Kambu Medical Centre, and the towns of Fernvale, Lowood and Rosewood. The service offers free breast cancer screening mammograms and targets women aged 50 to 74 years old, however, women are eligible to use the free service from the age of 40.

BreastScreen Queensland reports that since this service began operating within Ipswich West in 2010, more than 3,500 women have received free mammograms. The majority of those women screened (2,290 women) were in the target age group of 50 to 74 years, where the benefits of this service are greatest.

Comparisons between 2013 and 2015 screening numbers show an increase of greater than 10% in women using the mobile van services. BreastScreen staff report that many users of the service attribute the accessibility and convenience of the van to their increased participation in breast cancer screening. Prior to the introduction of the mobile service van, many women within the region reported that lifestyle, work, transport or economic reasons impacted their decision to schedule a regular mammogram.

In the 2016-17 financial year, the service aims to screen 11,500 women within the West Moreton Hospital and Health Service catchment region, including more than 1,500 women in the Ipswich West electorate through the mobile van service.