

Question on Notice

No. 1469

Asked on 18 October 2018

MR J COSTIGAN asked the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services (HON DR S MILES) –

QUESTION

Will the Minister commit to a kidney dialysis centre for the Proserpine Hospital so that patients in the Whitsundays do not have to travel back and forth to Mackay for regular treatment?

ANSWER

The Palaszczuk Government has provided additional funding of \$5 million in 2018-19 – and \$20 million over four years – to enhance renal services in North Queensland. Mackay Hospital and Health Service (HHS) has been allocated \$700,000 in additional capital and operational funding in 2018-19 to provide increased capacity and enable renal services to be provided closer to home.

The funding will support Mackay HHS to establish a new local satellite dialysis service for the Whitsunday community and to improve services in Mackay. The current service demand supports the establishment of this service at Bowen Hospital. The new service will enable residents from Bowen, Collinsville, Proserpine, Cannonvale and Airlie Beach to access dialysis closer to home, thus significantly reducing the travel time for these residents.