

Question on Notice

No. 750

Asked on 13 June 2018

MR S ANDREW asked the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services (HON DR S MILES) —

QUESTION

With reference to the February 2018 Council of Australian Governments (COAG) consideration of a new National Health Agreement pilot to incorporate Commonwealth-State health funding arrangements into a single health agreement and to streamline terms and conditions to demonstrate citizen benefit—

Will the Minister advise if the Queensland Government signed this agreement for the benefit of the Queensland people and Queensland Health system as a whole?

ANSWER

The Queensland Government welcomed the fact that the Commonwealth made an initial offer to states and territories on future health funding arrangements at the February 2018 COAG meeting.

However, as the Premier made clear at the time, before Queensland considers the offer the Commonwealth must honour its commitments under the existing National Health Reform Agreement.

Queensland is still owed nearly \$294 million for public hospital activity already delivered in 2016-17.

The Palaszczuk Government has also called on the Commonwealth to commit to reconciling future determinations for each year by March of the following year, and to accept the reconciliation by the National Health Funding Administrator as binding, with a dispute resolution mechanism to resolve any disagreement after payment.

Queensland will be in a position to consider signing a new agreement when these issues are resolved.