

Question on Notice

No. 440

Asked on 28 March 2019

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

QUESTION

Will the Minister provide an update on the status of the West Moreton Health Breastsreen program?

ANSWER

BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) has been delivering screening and assessment services in the West Moreton area since 1997 with the establishment of the Ipswich service and use of a mobile van since 2010.

The BSQ mobile van currently visits more than 16 locations in the West Moreton area, bringing this invaluable service to women living in areas such as Goodna, Redbank, Springfield, Riverlink, Winston Glades, Bundamba, Kambu Medical Centre, The Park Centre for Mental Health and in rural communities such as Fernvale, Lowood, Plainland, Rosewood, Esk, Toogoolawah and Boonah.

In 2017-18, the Ipswich service provided breast screening to 12,102 women in West Moreton and the latest participation data shows that 55% of women aged 50-74 years had participated in the program which is in line with the state average (55.67%).

In 2018-19, the Ipswich service activity target is to screen 12,400 women. In the period 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019, 8097 women have to date been screened which is 89.5% of the year-to-date activity target. The service is now offering screening 2-3 Saturdays per month and early and late appointments to provide greater after-hours access.

The popular mobile van service in West Moreton is being expanded with an additional new mobile van to be delivered in late 2019, which will be shared with the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service. This will mean that the growth in demand for screening from an increasing population can be met

I would encourage all eligible women aged 50-74 years in the West Moreton area, and across the state to take part in the free nationally accredited BreastScreen Queensland program.