

Question on Notice

No. 459

Asked on 2 April 2019

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

QUESTION

Will the Minister advise the number of Queenslanders waiting longer than two years for dental treatment on the public waiting list, as at 1 January 2015, 1 January 2016, 1 January 2017, 1 January 2018 and 1 January 2019 (reported separately by year)?

ANSWER

The number of people waiting longer than two years for general dental treatment is detailed in the table below:

	No. of people waiting longer than 2 years for general dental treatment	State Government Oral Health Services Funding (\$ million per financial year)	Commonwealth Government National Partnership Agreement (NPA) on Dental Services Funding (\$ million per financial year)
31 December 2014	0	193.6	30.3
31 December 2015	0	187.5	23.3
31 December 2016	0	189.2	30.3
31 December 2017	224	193.1	26.0
31 December 2018	1935	196.3	21.7
31 March 2019	723	195.2	16.2

Note: The number of people on the general public dental waiting list is reported monthly, based on data from the last day of each reporting period. The amount of NPA funding for each financial year reflects the funding available for each reporting period rather than the actual timing of payments or allocation of funding to Hospital and Health Services.

The Federal Government has a key role to play in funding our public dental services.

The Federal LNP Government has cut 30% of funding under the current National Partnership Agreement on Public Dental.

These cuts impact Queenslanders across the state, reduce services, and put increased pressure on our public dental system.

Despite the Federal Government's funding cut, most Queenslanders have been treated within clinically recommended times.