Question on Notice

No. 1256

Asked on 4 December 2020

MS S BOLTON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH) -

QUESTION

With reference to Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme (PTSS) and concerns that patients in the Noosa Electorate are ineligible due to a new hospital opening farther from their homes, but less than 50km from their previous closest hospital, and concerns about inadequate public transport—

Will the Minister advise when there will be a review of the eligibility criteria for PTSS to address these concerns?

ANSWER

I am advised that the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service is aware of concerns from Noosa patients based on the current Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme guidelines.

Noosa residents' claims will be considered on a case by case basis, with consideration given to their distance from the nearest facility.

The Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme will continue to provide support for patients required to travel more than 50km from the patient's closest public hospital to access specialist health services not available locally. The ongoing commitment of providing Queenslanders with care closer to home is very important to the Queensland Government.