

Question on Notice

No. 781

Asked on 16 July 2020

MR R MOLHOEK asked the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services (HON DR S MILES) –

QUESTION

Will the Deputy Premier advise the total number of mental health places available in the Gold Coast Health Region (a) currently existing in the region, (b) there are now compared to 2015 when Labor came into office and (c) the government is committing to in the next financial year?

ANSWER

The Mental Health and Specialist Service, Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service (GCHHS), has experienced continued pressure on demand for services due to a rapidly increasing population.

To help meet the demand, the Mental Health service has expanded its bed capacity to 158 inpatient beds in 2020, from 144 inpatient beds in 2015. These 14 additional beds include four mother and baby beds, four acute care beds and six community based transitional recovery beds.

Planning is also proceeding for a new Mental Health Crisis Stabilisation service to incorporate twelve 23-hour chairs and eight short stay beds. The GCHHS will be one of the first health services in Australia to introduce a crisis stabilisation facility to support people experiencing an acute mental health crisis.