

Question on Notice

No. 145

Asked on 9 March 2021

MR L MILLAR ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH) –

QUESTION

Will the Minister advise the amount of funding for palliative care in the Central Highlands for both inpatient palliative care through the Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service and separately through community-based and non-government organisation services delivering home-based hospice care?

ANSWER

The provision of compassionate, high-quality and accessible palliative care for persons at their end of life is a fundamental right for the Queensland community.

Funding for palliative care within the Central Highlands region of the Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service is provided annually.

The palliative care bed in the Emerald Hospital has been adapted to provide an improved environment for palliative care patients. This private room is utilised for other patients when not required for palliative care patients.

Both the Blackwater and Springsure Multi-Purpose Health Services (MPHS) are also funded under the standard agreement for MPHS facilities. They both provide palliative care for inpatients.

\$12,650 is also provided to pay for equipment to support home care and for outsourcing of nursing care to private service provider Oz Care.

In response to the Parliamentary Committee's *Report No. 33, Aged Care, End-of-Life and Palliative Care* the Queensland Government committed \$171 million additional investment through to and including 2025-26, to support initiatives such as the development of a Strategy and workforce plan, home-based care delivered through non-government organisations and public education and sector advocacy. This funding builds on the ongoing investment by the Queensland Government to the palliative care system.

Queensland Health has commenced the planning phase for the implementation of these initiatives. Once this work has been completed, more information will be known about the specific allocations to be made and how this will be rolled out across Queensland locations.