

Question on Notice

No. 3

Asked on 23 February 2021

MRS D FRECKLINGTON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH) –

QUESTION

With reference to staffing levels (FTEs, part-time, casual and contract staff) at the Kingaroy, Nanango and Murgon Hospitals—

Will the Minister advise a) current staffing levels across these hospitals, (b) has there been a reduction in staffing levels across these hospitals since 1 November 2020, (c) how many shifts have been short-staffed since 1 November 2020 for each of these hospitals and (d) the main reason for shifts being short staffed?

ANSWER

I am advised that:

- a) the collective staffing levels across the three hospitals in question is currently 278.15 staff;
- b) there has been a collective increase in staff at the three hospitals in question;
- c) an audit was undertaken for shifts between 1 November 2020 and 15 February 2021 which identified 61 were short staffed. I have been advised that, of the total number of shifts in the aforementioned period, 3.3% were short staffed and 1.31% were overstaffed; and
- d) the total FTE at Kingaroy Hospital is sufficient to cover all shifts, however the profiles for the new hospital have been in transition phase since opening in December. This transitional phase includes trial shift profiles over select periods to align with standards for:
 - Patient and staff safety;
 - Volume and acuity of patients; and
 - Hospital / ward layout.

Appropriate profiles were created in late January following the above trial periods, which should address deficits. Utilisation is actively managed throughout the hospitals and managed appropriately according to clinical workload requirements.