

Question on Notice

No. 629

Asked on 25 May 2021

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

QUESTION

With reference to the migration to Queensland of interstate residents to rural and regional areas, including the township of Oakey and the anticipated pressure on existing health and medical facilities in the regions—

Will the Minister advise if the Oakey Hospital will receive any funding to upgrade the outdated facilities which created difficulties at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in the next 2 years?

ANSWER

I am advised the Queensland Health System operates under a federated model, with approximately 90% of the health budget allocated to Hospital and Health Services for the provision of health services to their communities. This includes management of their maintenance and upgrade budget.

In relation to the Oakey facility, Darling Downs Hospital HHS has advised that it is currently in the very early stages of exploring options for how the facility could be reconfigured to ensure the acute hospital facilities are physically separated from the aged care facilities to optimise infection control.

DDHHS has further advised that the repairs and maintenance program that provides for periodic investment in infrastructure at Oakey Hospital to support health services delivery will continue.

Since 2017, Darling Downs HHS has spent more than \$2.5 million to complete renovation works, upgrading of the nurses' station, air-conditioning and security systems.