

Question on Notice

No. 1028

Asked on 13 October 2022

MR D LAST ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH)—

QUESTION

With reference to the government response to the Health and Environment Committee Report No. 18, 57th Parliament-Inquiry into the provision of primary, allied and private health care, aged care and NDIS care services and its impact on the Queensland public health system, stating that 'Queensland Health is interested in exploring with the GP sector shared workforce models' and given the committee referred to Clermont as the site of such a model and the Shared Workforce model is not currently in place— Will the Minister advise when the residents of Clermont can expect to see the Shared Workforce model operational, and a permanent GP appointed to the Clermont Hospital?

ANSWER

I am advised the Mackay Hospital and Health Service (MHHS) continues to work with key stakeholders to develop a sustainable medical model that is responsive to the community needs of Clermont.

It is widely known that Australia is experiencing critical medical workforce shortages, in particular rural generalists and senior medical officers with General Practice as a scope of clinical practice.

Queensland Health is working to address this through initiatives to produce homegrown doctors in regional, rural and remote communities and recently held a rural and remote workforce forum in Cairns to identify actions that may assist in addressing the challenges relating to the rural and remote health workforce.

Further, primary health care is the remit of the Commonwealth Government. Our government continues to work with the federal government to ensure Queenslanders have equitable access to primary health care and collectively address health workforce shortages across the country.