

Question on Notice

No. 1343

Asked on 10 November 2022

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

QUESTION

With reference to the Gympie hospital—

Will the Minister provide the data relating to the total number of Emergency Department presentations (reported separately by year from 2017 to 2022)?

ANSWER

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to providing access to health services for all residents, both within the Gympie region and the broader Sunshine Coast.

In order to ensure equity of access to health services in the Gympie region, Care4Qld funding has been allocated to Gympie Hospital to enable improved emergency access across the entire patient journey and the delivery of timely, quality, and appropriate patient focused services, in the face of increasing demand. The funding at Gympie has provided for:

- An additional four (4) short stay beds in the Emergency Department;
- Increased staff to provide appropriate care to paediatric patients; and
- Mental Health clinicians within the Emergency Department 7 days a week.

Additionally, recent service enhancements implemented at Gympie Hospital include:

- An increase in Social Workers hours from 5 to 7 days per week;
- An Adult Frailty Clinical Nurse Consultant;
- A Community Hospital Interface Program Nurse; and
- Commencement of three (3) surgical short stay beds from 2 November, 3 nights a week to improve surgical flow and reduce waitlists.

I am advised by the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service that the volume of emergency presentations to Gympie Hospital is consistent and has been maintained over the past 5 years. The total number of Emergency Department presentations to Gympie Hospital each year from 2017 to present are:

2017 – 30,596
2018 – 29,646
2019 – 31,943
2020 – 31,390
2021 – 32,975
2022 – 24,024 (YTD to 30 September)