

Question on Notice

No. 374

Asked on 10 May 2022

MR T WATTS ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH)—

QUESTION

With reference to health waiting lists—

Will the Minister advise how many people who live in the postcodes 4350 and 4352 are on waitlists to receive surgery at Brisbane based hospitals?

ANSWER

Hospital and Health Services across the state have well-established processes in place so patients receive an excellent level of care. This includes ensuring healthcare workers are highly-trained, skilled and qualified to perform the role they are in.

While public hospitals aim to achieve the safe provision of care for all patients, as close to home as possible, it is recognised some people may need to travel outside their local community to access necessary care.

This may mean patients are transferred to a different hospital to ensure they receive the appropriate level of care. It is for this reason the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme subsidises travel and accommodation costs for Queenslanders living in rural and remote locations, who are required to travel for their care.

I am advised by the department that as of 1 May 2022, there were 230 patients residing in the postcodes of 4350 and 4352, waiting to receive surgery at Brisbane based hospitals.

COVID 19 has had a significant impact on non-urgent surgery waiting lists, as hospitals have had to review their schedules around planned care to accommodate the demand generated by the pandemic.