

Question on Notice

No. 1544

Asked on Tuesday, 28 November 2023

MR T MANDER ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING (HON M SCANLON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to hotel brokerage offered by the department—

Will the Minister provide (reported separately for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 financial years) (a) the number of households supported through hotel brokerage, (b) total expenditure associated with hotel brokerage, (c) median customer time spent in hotel brokerage and (d) the longest period of time a customer has spent in hotel brokerage?

ANSWER:

During 2021-22, the department directly brokered hotel accommodation for 949 households at a cost of \$717,000 for these responses. In 2021-22, \$3.06M in brokerage was also allocated to Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) across Queensland. In 2021-22, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Specialist Homelessness Services Collection (SHSC), the median time clients spent in all accommodation (short, medium and long term) provided by Queensland SHS was 54 days¹.

During 2022-23, the department directly brokered hotel accommodation for 354 households at a cost of \$510,146 for these responses. In 2022-23, \$24.08M in brokerage was allocated to SHS across Queensland. This includes the significant injection of brokerage funding through the new Immediate Housing Response (IHR) package which supported more than 6,850 households with emergency accommodation². In 2022-23, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Specialist Homelessness Services Collection (SHSC), the median time clients spent in all accommodation (short, medium and long term) provided by Queensland SHS was 53 days¹.

For privacy reasons, the department is unable to release data on the longest period of time customers spent in hotel brokerage due to risk of identification.

Note, brokerage funding for SHS can be used to provide one or more of the following:

- short-term temporary accommodation in motels/hotels/apartments
- purchase of essential items and services
- assistance to transition to alternative housing
- to purchase specialist support services, e.g. counselling.

¹ These figures include short-term accommodation provided with brokerage funds and are based on SHS funded by both the DOH and the Department of Justice and Attorney-General

² According to regular reporting from SHS receiving IHRF brokerage