

## Question on Notice

No. 1202

Asked on 12 December 2024

**MS B ASIF** ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON T NICHOLLS)—

### QUESTION

Will the Minister advise the number of times voluntary assisted dying services have been utilised since the introduction of such services, in a table reported separately by (a) calendar year and (b) Hospital and Health Service?

### ANSWER

I am advised that 2,991 people have received a first assessment for voluntary assisted dying since the commencement of the *Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2021* on 1 January 2023 to 30 November 2024.

A first assessment is conducted by an authorised medical practitioner to determine whether a person is eligible to access voluntary assisted dying in Queensland.

In 2023, 1,322 people received a first assessment. In the first eleven months of 2024, 1,669 people received a first assessment, reflecting increasing demand for voluntary assisted dying in Queensland.

Voluntary assisted dying services have been provided in all Hospital and Health Services across Queensland.

*Table 1. Number of people who have received a first assessment by Hospital and Health Service (HHS)*

Hospital and Health Service	1 January – 31 December 2023	1 January – 30 November 2024	Total 1 January 2023 – 30 November 2024
Cairns and Hinterland	135	170	305
Central Queensland	37	52	89
Darling Downs	75	99	174
Gold Coast	175	233	408
Mackay	73	78	151
Metro North	158	234	392
Metro South	198	279	477
Sunshine Coast	154	167	321
Townsville	137	141	278
West Moreton	55	57	112
Wide Bay	111	143	254
Remote HHSs*	14	16	30
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>1,669</b>	<b>2,991</b>

*\*Central West, North West, South West and Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Services (HHSs) have been categorised as 'Remote HHSs' due to a sample size of fewer than ten cases in each HHS in the reporting periods.*

Source: QVAD Review Board IMS.