

Question on Notice

No. 237

Asked on 19 March 2024

MR J LANGBROEK ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR WOMEN (HON S FENTIMAN)—

QUESTION

Will the Minister advise what referral pathways are available in Aurukun, Coen and Doomadgee for (a) drug and alcohol programs and (b) perpetrator programs for domestic violence offences?

ANSWER

(a) Drug and alcohol programs

As part of a continuum of treatment services, there are a number of Commonwealth and State funded specialist alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation services in the Torres and Cape and North West regions.

People from communities in the region can be referred to these services including through self-referral or a health professional or other service provider.

Doomadgee

The North-West Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drug Service has a clinical nurse permanently stationed at Doomadgee hospital, who is able to respond to walk-in requests for support as well referrals from other service providers.

Additionally, a Senior Social Worker visits Doomadgee biweekly, augmenting the service provision and expertise available locally, and recruitment is underway for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Worker to be based in Doomadgee, emphasising cultural relevance and community engagement.

Aurukun and Coen

Torres and Cape Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drug Service provides a weekly in-reach service to Aurukun and Coen to provide assessment, screening and interventions to consumers presenting with mental health and alcohol and other drug related concerns.

Referrals are currently received through multiple modalities which include, self-referral, court diversion, and referrals from local service providers such as the Aurukun and Coen Primary Health Care Clinics and Non-Government organisation partners such as Apunipima Cape York Health Council Ltd.

In addition to local services, Queensland Health's Adis 24/7 Alcohol and Drug Support provides state-wide online and telephone information and support and referral to treatment services across Queensland.

Through the 2022-23 State Budget the Queensland Government committed \$1.645 billion in new funding over the next five years to improve mental health, alcohol and other drug services and for a range of initiatives to support suicide prevention.

This funding includes \$211.8 million over five years to deliver new and enhanced specialist alcohol and other drug treatment services allocated under *Better Care Together – A Plan for Queensland's state-funded mental health alcohol and other drug treatment services to 2027*.

(b) Perpetrator programs for domestic violence offences

The Queensland Government is committed to holding persons using violence to account and keeping victim-survivors safe.

Availability of perpetrator programs fall within the portfolio responsibilities of the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Domestic and Family Violence.