Question on Notice

No. 297

Asked on 20 March 2024

MS R BATES ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR WOMEN (HON S FENTIMAN)—

QUESTION

Will the Minister provide (from 1 January 2023 to date) in relation to Queensland Health using hotel, motel or resort style accommodation for patient care (reported separately by Hospital and Health Service) (a) the total number of patients who (i) stayed overnight in these facilities and (ii) received care in these facilities and (b) the total amount spent by the HHS on these facilities?

ANSWER

The Southport Low Acuity Accommodation facility was set up by the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service as a temporary measure to assist with high demand while the health service builds new facilities.

The specific focus of the Southport Low Acuity Accommodation facility is on continuing to provide care to patients who no longer require acute care within the hospital setting.

The Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service has a number of expansion projects underway to increase bed capacity to meet the growing healthcare needs of the community. These include an expansion to the Gold Coast University Hospital, which will deliver 70 sub-acute beds, and the brand new \$1.3 billion 404-bed Coomera Hospital.

While these projects continue to be delivered, the Hospital and Health Service will continue to explore all opportunities to provide prompt and high quality healthcare to the community.

The Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service is the only Hospital and Health Service that utilises this temporary arrangement. I can confirm that the facility operates at an average 90% occupancy and has accommodated more than 700 patients, to the period ending 31 March 2024. The total amount spent by the Health Service on Southport Low Acuity Accommodation is available on the Queensland Government Open Data Portal.