

Question on Notice

No. 695

Asked on 23 May 2024

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

QUESTION

Will the Minister advise whether the government would consider a further subsidised parking scheme at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital (SCUH) for nurses, patients and other SCUH staff which would alleviate local parking issues experienced by some Birtinya residents?

ANSWER

The existing arrangements provide for discounts for staff who park on site, and many of those staff choose to further subsidise this cost through salary sacrifice arrangements set up by the Queensland Government.

I am advised car parking concessions are available to eligible patients and their carers who attend hospital frequently, or for an extended period. Concessions also extend to patients and their carers with special needs who require assistance, and patients and carers experiencing financial hardship.

The tariffs in place at Sunshine Coast University Hospital are subject to the arrangement between Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service and Exemplar Health Pty Ltd.

Queensland Health also continue to work with health consumers, Hospital and Health Services and all relevant partners and entities to support access to alternative transport options. This includes active transport (where staff cycle or walk to work and use the end of trip facilities) and public transport routes servicing our health services.

Queensland Health works with local government and state agencies during the planning processes for new hospitals to ensure there is an adequate supply of car parks on site for staff and visitors.

Parking outside the Sunshine Coast University Hospital site is a matter for the Sunshine Coast Regional Council, particularly if there is an increase in parking on local streets affecting resident amenity and safety.