

Question on Notice

No. 776

Asked on Wednesday, 12 June 2024

MR D CRISAFULLI ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PLANNING AND MINISTER FOR PUBLIC WORKS (HON M SCANLON)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the number of government funded hotel room nights used for emergency accommodation, (reported separately by quarter and region) since 1 January 2021, together with the forecast number for the 2024-25 financial year?

ANSWER:

The Miles Labor Government funds Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) under the Homelessness Program. The Homelessness Program aims to assist people who are at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness in Queensland by funding services that support people to obtain housing, maintain their housing and maximise their capacity to be independent, and connected to appropriate social and community supports.

Additionally, SHS that are funded to deliver the Immediate Housing Response (IHR) initiative are allocated an amount of brokerage funding to assist people to access temporary accommodation, such as purchasing nights in hotels or motels.

Where needed, Housing Service Centres may also directly broker nights of temporary accommodation.

Since commencement of the IHR on 1 July 2022 through to 31 March 2024, **270,438** nights of temporary hotel/motel type accommodation have been provided by Specialist Homelessness Services and Housing Service Centres (HSCs).

In the Brisbane region:

- 597 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter one.
- 2,422 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter two.
- 4,872 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter three.
- 7,174 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter four.
- 9,408 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2023-24 quarter one.
- 9,901 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS and HSCs in 2023-24 quarter two.
- 16,178 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2023-24 quarter three.

In the Central and North Coast region:

- 1,650 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter one.
- 2,929 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter two.
- 12,623 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter three.
- 19,638 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS and HSCs in 2022-23 quarter four.
- 18,684 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS and HSCs in 2023-24 quarter one.
- 14,340 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS and HSCs in 2023-24 quarter two.
- 22,474 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS and HSCs in 2023-24 quarter three.

In the Northern Queensland region:

- 1,778 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter one.
- 4,481 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter two.
- 6,116 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter three.
- 9,009 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter four.
- 6,269 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2023-24 quarter one.
- 6,325 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2023-24 quarter two.
- 8,118 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS and HSCs in 2023-24 quarter three.

In the South West region:

- 1,730 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter one.
- 6,373 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter two.
- 14,944 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter three.
- 13,535 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2022-23 quarter four.
- 10,881 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS and HSCs in 2023-24 quarter one.
- 9,673 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS in 2023-24 quarter two.
- 12,744 nights of temporary accommodation were provided by SHS and HSCs in 2023-24 quarter three.

The department may also broker emergency hotel accommodation during disaster responses. This data is categorised by disaster event, financial year and nights of accommodation provided. It is considered that the effort to identify and collate the data requested by region and quarter over the time period specified would be an inefficient use of departmental resources.

In 2020-21, the department provided 13,381 nights of emergency accommodation as part of the disaster response to COVID-19 across Queensland and the Ipswich super cell weather event.

In 2021-22, the department provided 5,370 nights of emergency accommodation as part of the disaster response to COVID-19 and severe weather events in multiple locations across the state.

In 2022-23, the department provided 6,314 nights of emergency accommodation as part of the disaster response to flood and fire events across the state.

In 2023-24 as at 26 June 2024, the department provided 20,536 nights of emergency accommodation as part of the flood, fire and Cyclone Jasper events across the state.

The department is unable to provide a forecast number of people who will require assistance via emergency motel or hotel accommodation for 2024-25 financial year. To meet demand, *Homes for Queenslanders* provided an additional \$205.4 million to expand IHR assistance to single person households and couples experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness, as well as families.