

## Question on Notice

No. 462

Asked on 23 April 2026

**MR S BOLTON** ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON T NICHOLLS)—

### QUESTION

With reference to Noosa's Katie Rose Cottage Hospice's temporary closure, as with Hummingbird House, due to shortfalls in funding to provide essential end-of-life care—

Will the Minister advise with the current Queensland Health Palliative and End-of-Life Care Strategy reform funding and workforce plans set to end in June 2026, (a) when the government will release the new strategy and funding plans, (b) whether 50 percent of nursing costs will be funded by the government as has been requested to avoid permanent closures of Queensland hospices and (c) what emergency funding will be made available to ensure these services continue?

### ANSWER

The former Labor government's Palliative and End-Of-Life Care Strategy was set to expire on 30 June 2026. The Crisafulli Government will continue to embed initiatives from the Strategy within the health system.

Queensland Health undertook a review of funding and contractual arrangements for non-government organisations (NGOs) funded under the Strategy, which resulted in \$4.1 million (GST exclusive) of additional funding per year across eight community-based palliative care NGOs, including for both Katie Rose Cottage and Hummingbird House, commencing in 2024-25.

I am advised that this funding uplift represented a 52% increase in Queensland Health's contribution for Katie Rose, and continues for the duration of the contract period, with additional indexation funding also being applied in 2025-26.

I am advised that Queensland Health has provided financial support to the organisation on multiple occasions. This includes providing operational funding since 2019, the 52% uplift commencing in 2024-25 for the duration of the contract period, and multiple engagements with Katie Rose investigating and recommending more sustainable operations.

I am advised that Queensland Health has consistently acted to support contracted NGOs funded under the Strategy in providing their services. Ultimately, however, NGOs are independent organisations and remain responsible for their own financial management and sustainability.

The Member may also wish to raise this matter with the Commonwealth Government, noting recurrent Commonwealth support is not matching the reported scale of need in community-based palliative care, and has even ceased completely in some cases, leaving the State and NGOs to absorb the gap.