

Estimates Committee 2003
Questions Taken On Notice

(01/10/2002 to 01/10/2004)

Date: 06/27/2003

Output:

Sub Output:

Subject: Funding of community-based public mental health services

From: Mr WOOD to Honourable Jane AAGAARD
Minister for Health and Community Services

7-12

Question:

In Budget Paper No 3, page 202, under Performance Measures, it says that the Health Department expects to provide community-based public mental health services to 4600 people next financial year, the same as this year. This is despite the promised increase in funding for Mental Health Services. Why is the department not expecting to provide services to more people next year with this increase to funds?

Estimates Committee

Questions Taken On Notice

(01/10/2002 to 01/10/2004)

Date: 26/06/2003

Output:

Sub

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Subject: Mental Health Services Funding

From: Mr WOOD to Honourable Jane AAGAARD
Minister for Health and Community Services

7-12

Question: In Budget Paper No 3, page 202, under Performance Measures, it says that the Health Department expects to provide community-based public mental health services to 4600 people next financial year, the same as this year. This is despite the promised increase in funding for Mental Health Services. Why is the department not expecting to provide services to more people next year with this increase to funds?

Answer: The estimated output target information was provided well before the mental health budget increase was announced, and as such was based on the existing program allocation. Current and future targets will be reviewed in light of the new budget.

During the first two years of output reporting to Treasury (ie 2001-2003), output indicators and the counting methodology have been reviewed and refined a number of times. The ability of the mental health program to accurately estimate demand for services will improve as data collection and quality improves and a greater data time series is available.

The reported target for 2002/03 of 4600 (Budget paper No3, p202) was incorrect due to double counting of individuals receiving mental health services in different locations over the reporting period. A more accurate estimate for this period would have been 4200.

Mental health services anticipate further growth in the number of individuals receiving services in 2003/04.

Answered On:

Answer:

Attachments: