

# WRITTEN QUESTIONS

## 7th Assembly

17/05/1995

48. 1995-96 Budget Allocation to Health Services

Mr. BELL to MINISTER for HEALTH SERVICES

### QUESTION

1. How is the expenditure of \$600,000.00, allocated to build a second operating theatre at Katherine Hospital, to be spent and when will this be implemented.
2. Does Katherine Hospital now have a sufficient number of medical practitioners to fulfil all of its medical tasks.
3. Has there been a cut in Hospital Directorate funding in 1995-96 compared to actual expenditure in 1994-95.
4. What has been the effect of the new interstate financial arrangements between hospitals whereby each State and Territory has been charged for services provided to patients from within its borders who use services at interstate hospitals, in particular:
  - (a) was the cost to the Northern Territory in 1994-95;
  - (b) what was returned to the Northern Territory by other States; and
  - (c) what is the budget allocation for this arrangement for 1995-96.
5. Has there been a funding cut to the Tennant Creek Hospital in the 1995-96 budget compared to actual expenditure in the 1994-95 budget allocation.
6. Has there been a funding cut to the Community Care Directorate; if so, what is the explanation of this.
7. What was the actual expenditure details for the following Community-Controlled Clinics in 1994-95:
  - (a) Nauiyu Nambiyu;
  - (b) Nganmariyanga;
  - (c) Peppimenarti and Outstations;
  - (d) Wooay Kupuldiya;
  - (e) Warruwi;
  - (f) Nguiu;
  - (g) Belyuen;
  - (h) Minjilang;
  - (i) Gunbalunya;

- (j) Gagudju; and
  - (k) Kardu Numida.
8. Has the decision been made on which clinics will benefit from the \$1 million of the 1995-96 appropriation allocated to upgrade them, as stated by the then Minister during the Appropriation Bill Committee Stages; if so which clinics will be upgraded.
  9. What funds of the 1995-96 appropriation have been allocated to the Sexual Assault Referral Centre in Alice Springs; and
    - (a) how many staff does this Centre have; and
    - (b) do these staff have responsibility for Centres outside Alice Springs.
  10. Have any other funds been allocated specifically for sexual assault services in:
    - (a) the Alice Springs district; and
    - (b) the Alice Springs rural district.
  11. Have any 1995-96 funds been allocated specifically for sexual assault services in the Barkly district; if so, what funds have been allocated and does this district have the services of a sexual assault officer.
  12. Have any 1995-96 funds been allocated specifically for sexual assault services in the Katherine district; if so, what funds have been allocated and does this district have the services of a sexual assault officer.
  13. Have any 1995-96 funds been allocated specifically for sexual assault services in the Katherine district; if so, what funds have been allocated and does this district have the services of a sexual assault officer.
  14. What 1995-96 funds have been allocated to sexual assault services in Darwin, including non-Government agencies, and what services are available to residents of:
    - (a) the Darwin rural district; and
    - (b) Palmerston.

## ANSWER

Answered on 14/05/96

1. The allocation of \$600,000 (\$200,000 capital equipment, \$200,000 Patient Assistance Travel, \$200,000 staffing salaries) is to commission an existing operating theatre for the purpose of reducing waiting lists, with particular emphasis on eye surgery.  
  
Implementation commenced in September 1995, with the conduct of eye clinics.
2. Yes, providing that the Katherine Hospital can maintain a full complement of 8 medical officers.

(Note: The Katherine Hospital establishment of medical practitioners has been increased by two to eight. Recruitment action is in process to fill the additional positions).

3. 1994-95 actual expenditure, which included 'one-off' costs, was \$10,076,000. The 1995-96 budget allocation is \$10,048,000.
4.
  - (a) \$6,555,000
  - (b) \$2,626,000
  - (c) \$5,949,000
5. No. 1994-95 actual expenditure was \$4,488,000. The 1995-96 budget allocation is \$4,641,000.
6. No. 1994-95 actual expenditure was \$2,738,000. The 1995-96 budget allocation is \$2,561,000.

(Note: The 1994-95 expenditure included 'one-off' costs associated with a retirement in Tennant Creek, extended sick leave relief/large termination payment in Darwin, and special project funding in the East Arnhem District).

7. 

(a)	Naiyu Nambiyu	\$238,000
(b)	Nganmariyanga	\$108,000
(c)	Peppimenarti and Outstations	\$134,000
(d)	Wooay Kupuldiya	\$14,000
(e)	Warruwi	\$178,000
(f)	Nguiu	\$493,000
(g)	Belyuen	\$84,000
(h)	Minjilang	\$108,000
(I)	Gunbalanya	\$108,000
(j)	Gagadju	\$80,000
(k)	Kardu Numida	\$561,000

(Note: The above figures are rounded to the nearest \$000).

8. The Capital Works Program for 1995-96 provides for clinics at Palumpa, Kings Canyon, Mt Allan and Alcoota.
9. \$62,000
  - (a) One full-time counsellor.
  - (b) The counsellor is responsible for providing a sexual assault counselling service only. The position is based in Alice Springs; however, the person provides telephone advice/counselling services to Tennant Creek THS staff and clients.

10. (a) Yes. \$50,000 has been allocated for salary and training costs for health professionals providing services after hours.  
(b) No.
11. No. A counsellor from Alice Springs provides telephone advice/counselling services to THS staff and clients (refer to response to Question 9).
12. No. Sexual assault protocols have been developed for the Katherine Hospital to assist medical and nursing staff in the appropriate treatment of sexual assault clients. A roster of female medical officers available to assist in the care of these clients has been initiated at the Hospital for use on an as required basis, to assist with after hours situations.
13. Repeat question. Refer to response at Question 12 above.
14. \$261,000 - Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC)  
\$166,790 - Ruby Gaea House  
\$ 35,000 - Development of protocol, minimum standard and training resources by THS.
- (a) There are no discrete sexual assault programs in the Darwin Rural District; however three Professional (P2) staff from Family Youth & Children's Services are available to provide individual, family or community counselling services to residents in the region.

If they so choose, residents are also able to access the services provided by SARC and Ruby Gaea House. These include:

- . Crisis and long term counselling;
- . Support and counselling for families;
- . Information;
- . 24 hour medical care for injuries and for forensic purposes;
- . Support through Police and Court process;
- . Liaison with other agencies such as Police and Child and Family Protective Services; and
- . Education and training for other professionals.

(Note: A 24 hour counselling service is being developed but is not yet operational).

#### RUBY GAEA HOUSE (services to women and children)

- . Counselling services;
- . Medical, legal and resource information;
- . Emotional and practical support during Police or court proceedings;
- . Emergency accommodation for rape survivors;
- . Self-help groups for survivors and their relatives;
- . Education and training workshops on issues of sexual violence; and

. Campaigning and advocating on issues of sexual violence.

- (b) Residents of Palmerston are able to access the services provided by SARC and Ruby Gaea House as outlined above.

SARC (services for adults (women and men) and children who have been sexually assaulted)