

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Health:

#### Alcohol Issues

1. Please provide figures for presentations at RDH, ASH, Katherine Hospital, Tennant Creek Hospital and Nhulunbuy Hospital for alcohol-related harm in the 16/17 and 17/18 financial years.
  2. Has the P.A.R.T.Y (Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth) program been reinstated at RDH? (per the Riley Review Recommendations) At what cost?
  3. How many people have received voluntary alcohol treatment at the Berrimah facility since it opened?
  4. What budget has been allocated for expansion of therapeutic services in the Top End and Central Australia?
  5. Why hasn't there been an increase in the budget for "assessment, withdrawal and specialized alcohol treatment services..."? (per BP3, p143)
  6. What is the level of the Principal Alcohol Action Officer for the Barkly region and why is that position based in Alice Springs?
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### RESPONSE

1. **Please provide figures for presentations at RDH, ASH, Katherine Hospital, Tennant Creek Hospital and Nhulunbuy Hospital for alcohol-related harm in the 16/17 and 17/18 financial years.**

Alcohol "attributable" presentations data is based on major diagnosis codes and does not include presentations where alcohol is a secondary factor.

#### Alcohol attributable emergency presentations

Hospital	2016-17	2017-18
Alice Springs	3948	4739
Gove	223	308
Katherine	839	1000
Royal Darwin	3732	3641
Tennant Creek	750	677

**2. Has the P.A.R.T.Y (Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma in Youth) program been reinstated at RDH? (per the Riley Review Recommendations) At what cost?**

The National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre at Royal Darwin Hospital commenced the P.A.R.T.Y program delivery in January 2018, using existing staffing resources.

**3. How many people have received voluntary alcohol treatment at the Berrimah facility since it opened**

245 individual clients.

**4. What budget has been allocated for expansion of therapeutic services in the Top End and Central Australia**

Top End                      \$3.984 million

Central Australia        \$2.324 million

**5. Why hasn't there been an increase in the budget for "assessment, withdrawal and specialized alcohol treatment services..."? (per BP3, p143)**

Funding for the implementation of the Banned Drinker Register assessment service was allocated and offset by the cessation of the Alcohol Mandatory Treatment program.

**6. What is the level of the Principal Alcohol Action Officer for the Barkly region and why is that position based in Alice Springs**

There are two Principal Alcohol Action Officers at A07 level based in Alice Springs to support work in remote communities in the Central Australia and Barkly regions. The rationale for placing them together as a team, rather than in separate towns is to ensure:

- greater safety for the staff during periods of extended road travel to remote communities in both regions;
- cross-over coverage and support during periods of leave; and
- continuity when positions change, enabling support to be provided while recruitment takes place.