

Keeping our **Promise**



Health Action Plan Progress Report

*More doctors, more funding...
a healthier Queensland*



Queensland Government
Queensland Health

More Funding

PROMISE

Immediate injection of funding by Queensland Government

More long-term funding by Queensland Government

Seek funding from Federal Government

Tackle lifestyle diseases which burden hospitals

ACTION

\$548 million in 2005–06, including \$42 million extra for elective surgery, \$38 million extra for emergency departments and \$31 million extra for intensive care units.

Our Health Action Plan, launched in October 2005, invested almost \$6.4 billion in just over five years to relieve pressure on Queensland health services. This investment will grow in 2006–07 to \$9.7 billion over five years, an increase of \$3.3 billion. Much of this extra \$3.3 billion has been allocated to improve wages and other conditions for our staff.

Not provided. We are still seeking at least \$1.6 billion over the life of the current health care agreement, expiring 2008.

The \$155 million Queensland Strategy for Chronic Disease 2005–2015 aims to prevent chronic diseases and risk factors, improve quality of life for people with chronic diseases and reduce avoidable hospital admissions. Initiatives include: the Obesity Summit (held on May 3 and 4); a campaign to eat more fruit and vegetables; and better co-ordinated local health care through public and private partnerships at North Lakes, Logan-Beaudesert and Innisfail.

Valuing Staff

PROMISE

Reward our dedicated staff, so that more will be attracted to working in the public health system

New leadership based on values of caring for people, integrity and respect

New Code of Conduct with zero tolerance for bullying

ACTION

Industrial agreements have been or are almost finalised with all staff. They include more than \$1 billion in pay increases for doctors, and around \$1 billion for nurses. These make our pay and conditions more competitive with other states and the private sector.

A new Leadership Development Program has started; Climate and Culture questionnaire for 25 per cent of Queensland Health staff every six months (covering all staff over two years).

Now in place for all staff, with a requirement to be open about reporting mistakes – plus \$3 million to improve workplace culture.

More Health Jobs

PROMISE

ACTION

Recruit 300 extra doctors by December 2006

272 extra doctors already appointed to May 2006.

Recruit 400 extra allied health staff by December 2006

413 extra allied health staff already appointed to May 2006.

Recruit 500 extra nurses by December 2006

1,082 extra nurses appointed to May 2006 including 829 Registered Nurses.

Offering a job to all nurse graduates

A total of 742 nursing graduates have been employed into 2006 Queensland Health start-of-year intake programs.

Funding 20 scholarships for nurse practitioners

12 scholarships awarded and commenced in Semester 1, 2006. Remaining eight scholarships are undergoing selection and will commence in Semester 2, 2006.

Funding 235 doctor training places at Griffith University

35 students commenced at Griffith University in February 2006. Another 200 students will start over the next four years.

Additional training positions for new graduate doctors

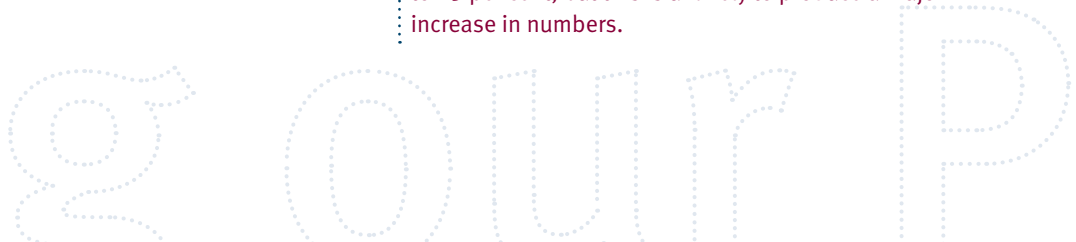
Medical intern numbers are growing significantly as JCU students complete their courses, with more growth expected as Griffith and Bond students complete training.

Additional specialist training registrar positions

20 additional specialist training registrar positions have been allocated to 10 hospitals statewide. Specialties include medicine; orthopaedics; general; vascular and maxillofacial surgery; radiation and medical oncology; ENT; paediatrics; radiology; obstetrics/gynaecology; cardiology and paediatric cardiology. Another 55 specialist training positions are also being created.

Seek more training places for doctors needed from Commonwealth Government

325 extra medical places are needed. The Commonwealth recently funded some places, however the number is likely to be less than 50. The Commonwealth has also increased the number of full-fee-paying domestic students who can enrol in medicine from 15 per cent to 25 per cent, but this is unlikely to produce a major increase in numbers.



Working Better

PROMISE

Giving doctors and other clinical staff more say by establishing Clinical Networks to improve results for patients

Easier and more effective complaints process with a new \$7.7 million Health Commission to monitor Queensland Health's performance and report to public

Cutting 162 head office jobs and moving 679 head office roles to take part in local health services

Revealing more information than ever before in a transparent process

Establish a Statewide Patient Safety and Clinical Improvement Service

ACTION

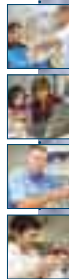
New Clinical Networks Policy and implementation guide published. 32 networks are operational across a range of disciplines in the Area Health Services including emergency departments, surgical services, cancer, maternity, orthopaedics and intensive care.

The new strengthened Health Quality and Complaints Commission is on track to commence operations on 1 July 2006.

168 head office positions abolished. 1,150 head office staff re-assigned to districts and Areas.

New 'Our Performance' Related Reports on hospital activity (monthly) on Queensland Health website www.health.qld.gov.au; elective surgery waiting times (quarterly), emergency department performance (daily), staffing (monthly) are now provided. Public Reporting Panel appointed to advise Minister on next steps.

Following the restructuring of Queensland Health, the Reform and Development Division now includes both the Clinical Practice Improvement Centre and the Patient Safety Centre. A Patient Safety and Quality Board will ensure a high priority is attached to these functions.



promise

The Health Action Plan

Last October the Queensland Government launched the \$6.4 billion Health Action Plan to transform and improve our health system.

The 2006-07 Budget increases funding for the Plan to \$9.7 billion over five years.

It's already delivering results.

We have delivered...

- More funding
- More doctors, nurses and support staff
- Higher pay for doctors and nurses
- Cut central office bureaucracy
- Zero tolerance for bullying
- An independent Health Quality and Complaints Commission
- Extra doctor training places
- A strategy to keep Queenslanders healthy
- Commitment to transparency

The only area in which we have not made enough progress is in getting the Commonwealth Government to do its fair share to fix our health system. While the Commonwealth has agreed to a small number of full-fee-paying medical places, we need a lot more and also need more funding for health in general.



Peter Beattie MP
Premier of Queensland



Stephen Robertson MP
Minister for Health

To find out more about the progress being made with the Health Action Plan, visit www.health.qld.gov.au or www.thepremier.qld.gov.au

June 2006

“I’m starting to see reports from doctors in hospitals saying yes we are noticing the change, this is very different to what it was 12 months ago.”

Dr Steve Hambleton,

*President, Australian Medical Association of Queensland ABC Radio
(612 4QR) Monday 22 May 2006*

In addition

- 99 new public hospital beds have been funded, with another 170 to come.
- 13 HEALTH 24-hour medical help hotline opened state-wide in April.
- \$3 million program to identify solutions to access block to improve patient flow through hospitals.
- \$40 million in new technology medical equipment for hospitals throughout Queensland, including Brisbane, Cairns, Rockhampton, Mackay, Bundaberg, Toowoomba and Mareeba.
- \$178 million redevelopment (including the Queensland Government contribution of \$123.6 million) of the Mater Hospital Complex, including the new Mater Mothers Hospital, is underway.
- \$108.5 million upgrade of The Prince Charles Hospital is underway.
- \$15.7 million upgrade of Wondai health facilities is underway.
- Caboolture Hospital Emergency Department reopened 24-hours, seven days from 18 April 2006.
- Four clinical CEOs have been created and senior doctors have been appointed to manage and coordinate medical services at the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital, the Princess Alexandra Hospital and Rockhampton. The clinical CEO will be appointed shortly to Cairns Hospital.
- \$110.7 million in capital funding has been provided for the emergency departments at Robina, Rockhampton, Redland, Redcliffe, Logan, Gympie and the Gold Coast.
- New partnerships with the private health system including new radiation therapy services for Sunshine Coast patients beginning this year.

