

**Health and Community Services Committee**  
**Departmental Briefing on the Mental Health Bill 2014**  
**Thursday 11 December 2014**  
**Question on Notice**  
**No. 4**

**QUESTION:**

What are the indicative implementation costs for the Mental Health Bill 2014?

**ANSWER:**

Funding requirements associated with implementation of the Mental Health Bill 2014 (the Bill) are to be met from within existing Queensland Health resources. Resource requirements to implement the Bill derive from the following key activities and initiatives:

- Statewide implementation requirements to operationalise legislative requirements
- Establishment of 'patient rights advisors' in Hospital and Health Services
- Enhancement of court liaison services; and
- Changes to Mental Health Review Tribunal functions and responsibilities.

Implementation of the Bill is subject to the passage of the Bill by Parliament, however the costs outlined below have been calculated based on a commencement timeframe of late 2015.

For the 2014-15 financial year, an estimated \$4.900M has been budgeted for implementation resources, staffing and non-recurrent activities such as state-wide system reform, policy and education package redevelopment. For the 2015-16 financial year, an estimated \$1.468M has been budgeted for implementation activities.

The total project implementation budget is inclusive of \$3.600M for enhancements to the Consumer Integrated Mental Health Application (CIMHA), which is the statewide electronic mental health record.

Projected part and full year costing will require adjustment according to the commencement date. Patient Rights Advisers and court liaison services staff will need to be 'on-board' two to three months prior to the commencement of the Act to enable the requisite training and orientation prior to commencement.

The estimated funding required for 2015-16 financial year activities is \$10.877M, based on a proposed commencement of the legislation in late 2015. A break-down of this cost is as follows:

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Estimated funding 2014-15</b>	<b>Estimated funding 2015-16</b>
State-wide policy/system reform	\$4.900M	\$1.468M
Patient Rights Advisers		\$2.937M
Adult Court Liaison Services		\$3.908M
Child and Youth Court Liaison Services		\$1.695M
Mental Health Review Tribunal		\$0.869M

Funding estimates have been developed in consultation with mental health service staff (including patient advocacy services and forensic mental health services) and the Tribunal.

Funding estimates will be subject to further analysis following passage of the Bill.