

Question on Notice
No. 1056
Asked on 8 June 2006

DR DOUGLAS asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)-

QUESTION:

With reference to his announcement on 30 May 2006 concerning the creation of 12 new positions across the State over the next three years as part of Queensland Health's Chronic Disease Strategy-

- (1) Where will the positions be located?
- (2) What are the salary classification levels of the positions?
- (3) How will the effectiveness of the Chronic Diseases Strategy be evaluated?

ANSWER:

- (1) The 12 Healthy Lifestyles Program Coordinator positions created for Queensland Health's Chronic Disease Strategy will be located as follows:

- 2005-2006: Positions are located in Cairns; Central West; Innisfail; Mackay; Redcliffe-Caboolture; Rockhampton; Roma; Southern Downs; Sunshine Coast; The Prince Charles Hospital; Toowoomba; Townsville; West Moreton;
- 2006-2007: Four positions each to Northern, Central and Southern Area Health Services with subsequent allocation to organisations that are best placed to deliver healthy weight/lifestyle programs; and
- 2007-2008: Four positions each to Northern, Central and Southern Area Health Services with subsequent allocation to organisations that are best placed to deliver healthy weight/lifestyle programs.

- (2) The salary classification levels of the positions are:

- Professional Officer Level 2 (PO2/03); or
- Nursing Officer Level 2 (NO2/03).

These positions require a mandatory bachelor degree in one of the following disciplines:

- Health Sciences;
 - Nursing;
 - Human Nutrition;
 - Psychology;
 - Social Work;
 - Occupational Therapy;
 - Physiotherapy;
 - Human Movements;
 - Health Promotion,
- or equivalent.

Skills include:

- planning, implementation and evaluation of health promotion programs;
- knowledge and understanding of issues and relevant State and national policies related to the promotion of healthy lifestyles and prevention of chronic diseases;
- communication and negotiation skills, including with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples;
- knowledge and understanding of continuous quality improvement processes, risk management, project management and evaluation methodology.

Additional skills include:

- professional expertise in one or more areas of a discipline;
- possession of postgraduate qualifications or postgraduate development experience; and
- recognition of peers.

- (3) An Evaluation Framework, developed in conjunction with the Centre for Primary Health Care, University of Queensland and a multi-stakeholder working group, is a key component of the *Queensland Strategy for Chronic Disease 2005-2015 (Page 49)*.

The evaluation framework comprises six key components:

- implementation process;
- health system responsiveness and supportive environments for healthy behaviour;
- intermediate-term impact;
- longer-term outcome;
- place based initiatives; and
- economic evaluation.

The evaluation of the Strategy will use existing state and national data sources wherever available. However, in addition to this, seven new surveys/studies/interview processes will be used to evaluate the implementation and effects of the Strategy in Queensland, including:

- an annual survey of key stakeholders (representative of key partners);
- interviews with key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander informants (every three years);
- computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI) survey of people with an in-scope chronic disease (every two years);
- CATI survey of the general population (every two years);
- key informant interview with clinicians (every two years);
- random survey of service providers (every two years); and
- cohort study of people with chronic disease (annual data collection).