

Question on Notice
No. 52
Asked on 14 February 2013

MR KNUTH asked the Minister for Health (MR SPRINGBORG)-

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the whereabouts of surplus funds accrued from a trust account at Charters Towers Eventide (previously the Residents Comforts Fund but now called the Residents Amenities Fund) which allowed an interest bearing bond to be invested by Queensland Government Treasury?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Dalrymple for his question.

The Charters Towers Eventide Patients Trust fund surplus funds continue to be invested with Queensland Treasury Corporation as has been the practice for a number of years and any interest earned from this investment is deposited in the Townsville Hospital and Health Service General Trust bank account and credited to a trust item called Patients Amenities.

The interest earned on surplus funds are utilised for the benefit of the patients and residents and is targeted to improve their quality of life utilising these funds on items such as:

- Equipment, electrical appliances and furniture to improve comfort and quality of life for patients and residents, and not normally expected to be provided by the facility;
- Patients' Trust Fund bank fees and charges;
- Small gifts for residents at special occasions such as Christmas, Easter, birthdays etc.;
- Computers and software;
- Pay TV, hire or purchase of television sets, VCRs, videos, CD players, CDs and the like;
- Haircuts, personal care items where deemed necessary;
- Outings, social activities and gatherings, photographs, entertainment, craft activities;
- Books, journals, newspapers, library materials etc.;
- Items to improve surroundings for residents such as prints, pot plants, flowers etc.; and
- Pet therapy costs, e.g. pet food, veterinary costs.