

Constituent Question in Parliament

House of Assembly

ASKED BY: Simon Wood MP

ANSWERED BY: Hon Guy Barnett MP

QUESTION:

I note the large-scale ads you announced yesterday regarding what you have called the Tasmanian government's biggest ever healthcare recruitment blitz. On behalf of my constituents, I am particularly interested in the over 500 additional staff you have stated that has been delivered into our health system. While that is positive, many individuals in my electorate of Bass continue to require health care at increasing rates, whether this is acute care through the LGH or in our outpatient healthcare settings. Can you please provide a breakdown of these staff and tell me how many doctors, nurses and allied health professionals have been hired, and what more is being done for recruitment of staff?

ANSWER:

The Tasmanian Liberal Government is committed to building a better health system that meets our needs now and into the future. We are recruiting as many health professionals as possible, as fast as possible.

Since the commencement of the recruitment blitz to 9 August 2024, 20 paramedics, 104 medical staff, 184 nurses, 137 administrative staff, 66 Allied Health professionals, and 143 support staff (such as cleaners, orderlies, food services staff) have commenced.

Of those commencements, 11 allied health, 44 nurses and 34 doctors (a total of 89 staff) were engaged to work at Hospitals North which is primarily acute care. A further nine staff were engaged in the north to support mental health services.

The Department is continuing its focus on recruiting to front line services. This includes a campaign which closed last weekend to engage permanent graduate nurses, and ongoing campaigns for doctors in training. These targeted campaigns are driven through social media as well as traditional advertising, and are aimed at Australian Universities, including the University of Tasmania.

A broader campaign is currently in development for bulk recruitment of nurses across the health system, to ensure that our recruitment processes are as effective and efficient as possible.

APPROVED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Guy Barnett', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Hon Guy Barnett MP
Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing

28 August 2024