SCHHS Annual Report shows increasing demand for healthcare

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service invests more than $3 million dollars every day in providing healthcare to our communities, an increase of 22 per cent from the previous financial year.

The Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) has released its Annual Report for 2017/2018, which demonstrates an increasing demand for health services across the region.

The Annual Report provides Members of Parliament, Senators and the public with a detailed description of the Department’s activities during each financial year, reporting against planned outcomes and performance targets.

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service Board Chair, Dr Lorraine Ferguson AM, said the report outlines the health service’s ability to meet increasing demands, by providing ever increasing services across all SCHHS facilities and community services.

“2017-2018 provided us with opportunities to celebrate a number of important milestones and achievements. Performance in many areas of service delivery has continued to improve, despite the increasing demand for services. This demonstrates the ongoing commitment of all health service staff to safety and quality of health care across the organisation,” Dr Ferguson said.

“The commissioning of SCUH Stage 2 built environment and preparation for, and opening of new tertiary services continued. In January the Paediatric Critical Care Unit opened, providing much needed care for critically ill or injured children closer to home.

“Work on the redevelopment and refurbishment of the Caloundra and Nambour hospitals continued this year and we will see increases in a number of beds and services at these facilities as works are completed,” Dr Ferguson said.

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service Chief Executive Adjunct Professor Naomi Dwyer said the 2017 – 2018 year will be remembered fondly as the first operational year of the new Sunshine Coast University Hospital.

“We have seen unprecedented growth in demand for care, including record numbers of emergency presentations and outpatient referrals as our population increases exponentially.

“Against this background, we were proud to deliver on our end of year goal of no patient waiting longer than clinically recommended for their elective surgery or endoscopy, and elimination of the waiting list for patients who had waited more than two years for an outpatient appointment,” Adj Prof Dwyer said.
The 2017/2018 Annual Report is available online

Year in numbers:

- 166,293 emergency department presentations
- 3,379 babies born
- 33,794 women underwent a breastscreen
- 10,889 elective surgeries performed

2017/2018 milestones:
- Record 284 babies born at Sunshine Coast University Hospital in August 2017
- $17m redevelopment of Caloundra Health Service commenced in November 2017
- Gympie Hospital staff celebrated 150 years of service in January 2018
- Community Care Unit won a national award for patient care in May 2018
- 29,740 dental occasions for children
- 54,750 dental occasions for adults

ENDS

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