

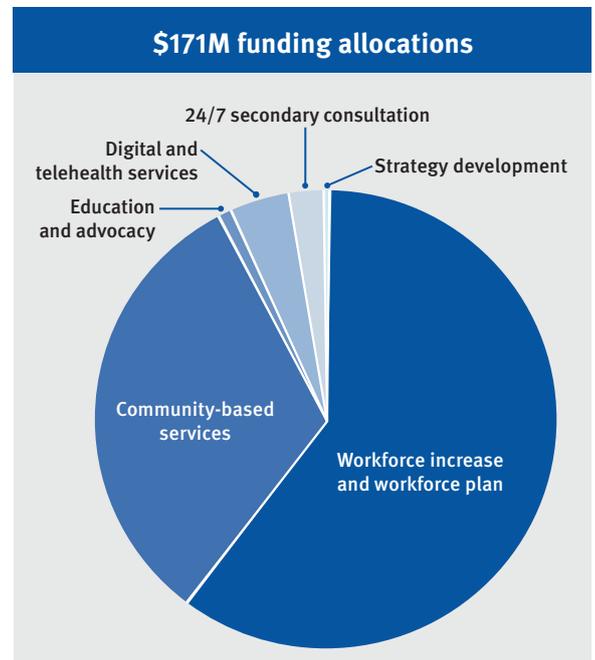
Transforming the palliative care sector

The Queensland Government provides ongoing investment in the Queensland palliative care system. Palliative care services are delivered in a range of settings including public and private hospitals, hospices, residential aged care facilities and private residences.

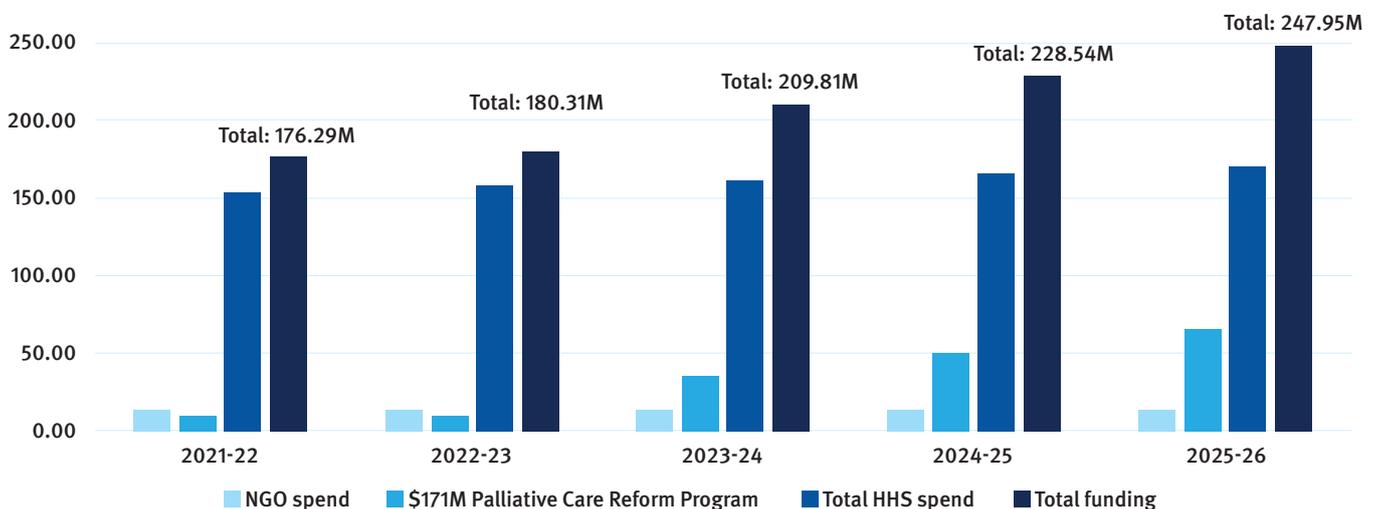
The Queensland Government has committed an additional \$171 million investment for palliative care reform from 2021-22 to 2025-26. This is in addition to existing Hospital and Health Service (HHS) funding, which will continue to increase over time. New investment is anticipated to result in a new recurrent allocation of an extra \$65 million per year from 2025-26 to support equity of access across Queensland.

Stepwise investment approach

- Mixture of activity-based and block funded arrangements with hospitals and community providers.
- The investment approach acknowledges current constraints and is gradually increased over the five years to seed and activate new service offerings in a sustainable way.
- The healthcare workforce needs time to build capability and capacity to strengthen and enable access to high-quality palliative care across the state.
- Based on historical HHS spend, by 2025-26, Queensland's Health's total spend on palliative care is estimated to be close to \$250 million. The new funding injection over this five-year reform period is anticipated to endure and continue to grow as a new recurrent allocation in line with usual escalation arrangements.



Queensland Health approximate projected annual spend on palliative care to 2025-26 (\$M)*



*Projections based on estimated baseline HHS spend of \$153.62M (2021-22), additional \$171M, and funding for non-government organisations based on 2020-21 funding of \$12.9M per year.

Activities progressing in 2021-22

Work is underway to activate investment under the funding package, including:

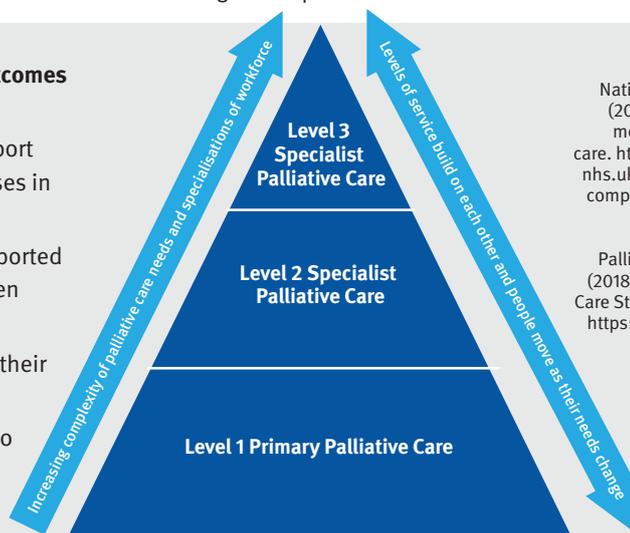
- Engaging statewide with clinicians, non-government organisations, Peak bodies, Unions, and training bodies to develop the new Palliative and End-of-Life Care Strategy and Workforce Plan
- Working with clinicians to design and implement solutions to

facilitate palliative care service provision in critical areas of need across the State

- Finalising an approach to allocate funding for community-based services to ensure it supports service system integration, improves access and delivers equity of access, including in regional, rural and remote areas and for First Nations peoples
- Exploring workforce opportunities, and attraction and recruitment pathways, within the context of current COVID-19 challenges and priorities.

The additional \$171 million funding contributes to better outcomes for people accessing palliative care, including:

- Increasing the specialist palliative care workforce to support and build capability of other levels to strengthen responses in the community
- Facilitating more options for community-based care, supported by the hospital system and palliative care specialists when needed
- Helping people to receive palliative care in the setting of their choice
- Improving the level of support to be able to be provided to people with complex palliative care needs



References

National Health Service. (2018). Comprehensive model of personalised care. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/personalisedcare/comprehensive-model-of-personalised-care/>

Palliative Care Australia. (2018). National Palliative Care Standards 5th Edition. <https://palliativecare.org.au/standards>

\$171 million additional funding breakdown to 2025-26

Additional investment will complement existing and future investment by HHSs through an increase in the specialist palliative care workforce, increased availability of community-based services and digital telehealth solutions for consumers.

Program of work	Funding allocated	Key Focus
 New Palliative and End-of-Life Care Strategy development	\$0.5 million	Palliative care system to support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual choice Person centred care More accessible services Equity of access to services Care in local communities
 Growing the frontline specialist palliative care workforce, supported by a workforce plan	\$102.5 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the specialist palliative care workforce Strategies to attract, recruit and retain a specialist palliative care workforce Training, education and capability building
 Investment in community-based services to meet local needs	\$54.8 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to more community-based care for adults and children in the local area Support individual choice of care setting Support efficient service delivery
 Palliative care digital services and telehealth support	\$7.2 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide care in the right place at the right time Increase access to care in regional, rural and remote areas Use expertise to provide and support local care
 24/7 secondary consultation for palliative care practitioners	\$4.3 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build capacity across the workforce Increase access to specialist palliative care staff in community based settings
 Education and advocacy about death, dying and advance care planning	\$1.6 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public education and awareness activities Work with the sector to design and deliver community education and support initiatives

Keep up to date at

www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/strategic-direction/improving-service/palliative-care-investment



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