

INFORMATION CREATED FOR RTI 2022

The number of screens conducted by BreastScreen Queensland are as follows:

2010/11 – 220,380 women screened

2011/12 – 228,733 women screened

2012/13 – 232,991 women screened

RTI Release

Title - Transition of BreastScreen Queensland mobile screening units to Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Incoming SDLO request

What is the plan for transitioning BreastScreen mobile screening units to HHSs?

Timeframes for the transition?

What support will be available to HHSs from the system manager to plan in the short term?

Response for Deputy Director-General clearance

Transition Plan:

- Identification of strategies, risks and solutions associated with the transition of the mobiles, (including the relief radiographer support service) to HHSs has commenced.
- With the exception of the Children's HHS, screening locations are identified in all other HHSs for the mobile screening units. Some of the larger HHSs have responsibility for geographical coverage of smaller neighboring HHSs.
- The current fleet of seven digital mobiles service over 170 locations across the State.
- Two new mobiles will be commissioned shortly - one in November 2012 and the other in February/March 2013. One of the new mobiles will replace an existing mobile.
- Consultation will commence in the next few weeks with the 13 HHSs and the ten BSQ Services impacted by the transitioning of the mobile services.
- The implementation of the roll out of state-of-the-art digital direct radiography mammography technology, including training, is due for completion December/January and is being taken into account as part of the transition planning.
- In addition, the new digital technology will enable the establishment of a state-wide reading hub to address the regional shortages of radiologists. This proposal will need to be included in consultation with HHSs and in the transition planning.



Timeframes:

- The proposed timeframe for the transition of the mobile services is March-June 2013.
- This will enable the completion of the build and commissioning of the new mobiles and the transition of the mobiles services and the finalisation of the implementation of new digital mammography equipment statewide.

Support to HHSs from system manager:

- The current mobile screening schedule ends December 2012.
- The schedule is usually compiled in advance for a six month period.
- The mobile schedule for January to June 2013 is being drafted in consultation with the affected HHSs.
- In the mean time, support for BSQ Services and their respective HHSs, continues to be provided by Cancer Screening Policy Team for the coordination of mobile services.
- The Preventive Health Unit staff will also continue to support BreastScreen Queensland Services through the maintenance of the BreastScreen Queensland register and the distribution of reminder letters to eligible women.

Input from: Leane Christie
Program Director Cancer Screening Policy
Preventive Health Unit
3328 9456
17 October 2012

Cleared by: Kaye Pulsford
Executive Director Preventive Health Unit
3328 9831
22 October 2012

Cleared by: Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
Chief Health Officer Branch
3234 1137
October 2012

Cleared by: Dr Michael Cleary
Deputy Director-General, Health Service and Clinical Innovation
3405 6181
October 2012

RTI Release

Fact
Sheet
10/8/12

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RTI Release

BreastScreen Queensland Services

Is Queensland Health "axing" BreastScreen Queensland?

No. Queensland women will still be able to access the same world-class breast screening services free of charge in more than 200 locations around the state.

Will I still receive my reminder letter as usual?

Yes, Queensland women will still receive reminder letters.

What is changing?

It is proposed that the coordination and management of BreastScreen Queensland state-wide mobile services (eight mobiles) and digital equipment for all BSQ services will be transitioned to Hospital and Health Services (HHS) by June 2013.

BreastScreen Queensland radiography support service, including mobile radiographers and relief radiographers, will be transitioned to a host HHS.

Mobile services and relief radiographers will be managed by Hospital and Health Services. Oversight of compliance with clinical guidelines and screening targets remains the same.

State-wide function for breast programs in Queensland will be maintained through the system manager:

- Quality monitoring and reporting of cancer screening services to ensure national screening standards, clinical guidelines and national policies are met.

Will funding be cut?

BreastScreen Queensland services are being funded through an output based funding model with agreed activity targets for each HHS.

This is the fourth and final year of the implementation of digital technology for BreastScreen Queensland under a National Partnership Agreement on Health Infrastructure. A total of \$26.719M in Commonwealth funding has been provided to Queensland.

This year we have also opened new services in Burleigh and Maroochydore. A new BreastScreen Queensland service is due to open in Gladstone by end August 2012.

Will regional communities still receive the same quality and level of service?

Yes. Our mobile vans will continue to visit regional communities on a routine schedule.

Is Queensland Health committed to breast screening?

Yes. It is the most effective way to detect breast cancer early. Queensland Health will continue to promote this vital service and is committed to providing ongoing funding for the BreastScreen Queensland program.

Do I need a breast screen?

Breast cancer is the second highest cause of cancer-related death in Queensland women and we urge women to be fully informed about the importance of early detection, particularly in relation to screening.

Women aged between 50 and 69 years of age should have a breast screen every two years. BreastScreen Queensland also provides free screening for women in their 40s and those aged over 70.

Women who notice any changes in their breast tissue or the surrounding area should seek the advice of their GP.

How do I organise a breast screen?

Women aged 50 to 69 years are encouraged to phone 13 20 50 to book a free breast screen. Women over 40 and 70 are also eligible.

Where can I find out more?

Visit the BreastScreen Queensland website or like Queensland Health on Face book!

Further information:

- Contact your local council office
- Queensland Health
www.health.qld.gov.au/disaster/
- 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84)
- Contact your nearest Queensland Health public health unit.

Queensland Health public health units:

Brisbane North	Tel: 3624 1111	Darling Downs	Tel: 4631 9888	Mount Isa and Gulf	Tel: 4744 9100
Brisbane South	Tel: 3000 9148	Gold Coast	Tel: 5668 3700	South West	Tel: 4656 8100
Bundaberg	Tel: 4150 2780	Hervey Bay	Tel: 4184 1800	Sunshine Coast	Tel: 5409 6600
Cairns	Tel: 4226 5555	Logan	Tel: 3412 2939	Townsville	Tel: 4753 9000
Central Queensland	Tel: 4920 6989	Mackay	Tel: 4911 0400	West Moreton	Tel: 3413 1200
Central West	Tel: 4652 6000	Moreton Bay	Tel: 3142 1800		

Department RecFind No:	
Division/District	CHOB
File Ref No:	

Briefing Note

Chief Health Officer

Requested by: Senior Public Health Officer,
Cancer Screening

Date requested: 26 April 2013

Action required by: 10 May 2013

Action required

- ☐ For approval
☐ For meeting

- ☐ With correspondence
☒ For Information

Other attachments for consideration

- ☐ Speaking points
☐ Draft media release
☐ Ministerial Statement
☐ Question on Notice
☐ Cabinet related document

SUBJECT: Potential impacts of the loss of positions in Hospital & Health Services which support implementation of population-based cancer screening programs in Queensland

Proposal

That the Chief Health Officer:

Note potential impacts of the loss of critical positions in Hospital & Health Services which manage the bowel and breast cancer screening programs in Queensland.

Urgency

1. Routine – some announcements about positions to be abolished have already been made by Hospital & Health Services.

Key issues

2. The number of new cancer cases in Queensland are among the highest in the world. In 2010, cancer was the leading cause of premature deaths in Queensland (39%). The Blueprint for better health care in Queensland highlights the Government's role to keep people informed about what they can do to live longer, healthier lives, prevent ill-health and support preventative and intervention services.
3. As a result of Hospital & Health Service (HHS) restructuring, multiple positions that implement preventive cancer screening programs in Queensland will potentially be abolished. Advice has been received to date that 2 gastroenterology nurse coordinator (GENC) positions, 5 health promotion officer (HPO) positions and 1 clinical nurse who support either the bowel cancer screening or BreastScreen Queensland programs in 4 separate HHSs are being abolished or altered significantly.
4. It is likely that advice will be received from more HHSs of similar position losses as they implement their own structural changes, despite a commitment in the HHS Service Agreements to maintain these services.
5. The impacts of losing GENC positions will relate to extended colonoscopy waiting times for follow-up of positive faecal occult blood test results and reduced or ceased ability to monitor and report on colonoscopy quality both nationally and locally.
6. The loss of HPO positions from both the bowel cancer screening and breast cancer screening will significantly impact on the HHSs ability to meet screening participation targets as these positions have a key role in local level health promotion activities with both community members, and with local health professionals.

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7. A Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Access Action Plan 2013-2015 is under development by the Clinical Access and Redesign Unit with the likely injection of additional funding for endoscopy procedures from this financial year. The Preventive Health Unit has provided input and feedback in relation to the Action Plan including advice of the loss of GENC and HPO positions.

Background

8. The QBCSP Policy Manual states that at least one GENC and one HPO are to be based in each catchment.
9. The 2012/13 Service Agreements with HHSs, which host positions funded to support the three cancer screening programs in Queensland, include the following statements:

Bowel cancer screening – The HHS will continue to provide Queensland Bowel Cancer Screening Program (QBCSP) services in accordance with the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program policy documents and the QBCSP Policy Manual. Services are to be provided across multiple HHS which make up the QBCSP catchment area.

Breast cancer screening – The HHS will continue to provide BreastScreen Queensland service in accordance with the BreastScreen Australia National Accreditation Standards, the BreastScreen Queensland Standards, Policy and Protocols Manual and national policies.

10. The GENC positions have been established for over five years in 11 HHSs as part of the infrastructure to support implementation of the QBCSP. They have a key role in ensuring QBCSP participants with a positive faecal occult blood test (FOBT) result referred to a Queensland Health designated facility receive high quality and timely colonoscopy services. They also have a key role in providing critical data to Cancer Screening within the Preventive Health Unit for quality assurance of these clinical services.
11. The abolishment of any GENC role in the state will result in QBCSP participants with a positive FOBT result being added to general endoscopy waiting lists, which in many HHSs extend significantly beyond the recommended 30 day waiting time. The impact of this was recently highlighted to the Minister by Peter Wellington, MLA on behalf of a constituent who was incorrectly advised by a GP that he had a 6 month waiting time for a colonoscopy in Queensland Health following his positive FOBT.
12. Without the network of GENCs, the Department of Health will lose the ability to measure the outputs of services and outcomes of the QBCSP, as well as quality assurance data used for reporting to individual specialists, HHSs, and at a statewide level. Queensland is the only jurisdiction able to report on detailed clinical and quality outcomes from colonoscopies provided as part of the National Program because of the coordinated statewide approach which includes 12 GENCs. With the proposed changes it is unlikely that this data will be available for Cairns HHS in future, and the data from the Sunshine Coast HHS will be incomplete.
13. None of the position losses have been due to staff seeking voluntary redundancies.

Consultation

14. Not applicable

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Financial implications

15. Since 2006 when the QBCSP commenced, the QBCSP State Coordination Unit (now Cancer Screening) provided yearly allocations from its State budget to 11 host Health Service Districts (now 11 host HHSs) specifically for the labour and non labour costs of the QBCSP GENC and HPO positions, administrative support for these positions and for expected colonoscopy activity. The 11 host HHSs provide bowel cancer screening services across the whole state of Queensland.
16. The total allocation for Health Service Districts in the 2011/12 financial year was \$3,654,738 (\$2,874,848 for labour and non labour costs of positions, and \$779,890 for colonoscopy procedures).
17. As of this financial year, this funding has been taken out of the QBCSP state budget and built in recurrently into the HHS base budget allocations based on the 2011/2012 allocations.

Legal implications

18. There are no legal implications.

Attachments

Attachment 1: Funding allocations – Queensland Bowel Cancer Screening Program 2011-2012

RTI Released

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Recommendation

That the Chief Health Officer:

Note potential impacts of the loss of positions in Hospital & Health Services which support implementation of the bowel cancer screening and breast cancer screening programs in Queensland.

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED**NOTED**

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer

/ /

Chief Health Officer **comments**

Author Catherine Spucches	Cleared by: (SD/Dir) Craig Carey	Cleared by: (SD/Dir) Paul Vardon	Cleared by: (SD/Dir) Kaye Pulsford
Senior Public Health Officer	Director	A/Director	Executive Director
Cancer Screening	Preventive Health Unit	Preventive Health Unit	Preventive Health Unit
3328 9457 19 April 2013	3328 9004 19 April 2013	3328 9004 Updated: 26 April 2013	3328 9068 s.47(3)(b) May 2013
Updated: 26 April 2013		Updated: 1 May 2013 for ED PHUf	
Updated: 30 April 2013 for ED PHU			

Title – HSCI Reporting Framework – BreastScreen targets and rate

Update

Budgeted activity targets as well as actual performance data for the 11 BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are included in Table 1. These 11 BSQ Services provide geographical coverage across all Hospital and Health Services. Table 1 includes the screening activity target and actual screenings undertaken and percentage of target achieved for the 2012/13 financial year.

The actual number of women screened for the 2012/13 financial year was 232,991, which represents 98.9% of the screening target (235,651 women screened). The actual number of women screened in 2012/13 was 2,660 below this target.

The number of women screened in 2012/13 represented an increase of 4,258 women screened compared to 2011/12 (228,733 women screened).

Of the 11 BSQ Services, five Services exceeded 2012/13 screening targets (Gold Coast (101.4%); Townsville (100.7%); Ipswich (100.3%); Brisbane Northside (100.2%); Sunshine Coast (100.1%). An additional three BSQ Services achieved an activity level greater than 98% of the target (the 'green light' level set for the 2013/14 HHS Key Performance Indicator 2.16 Equity and Effectiveness – Access) as follows: Wide Bay (99.4%); Toowoomba (98.5%); Rockhampton (98.1%).

The BSQ participation rate for the target cohort (i.e 50-69 year olds) is 57.6%. As participation rates are only released annually, this rate will not change between quarterly reporting periods. The national BreastScreen Australia participation rate is 54.6%.

Contentious Issues

The screening activity levels for two BSQ Services were 96-97.9% of target (the 'amber light' level) as follows:

- Mackay 97.4%
- Cairns 96.4%

The screening activity level for one BSQ Service was categorised as red (<96%):

- Brisbane Southside 95.7%

Following the commencement of the 2012/13 financial year, Healthcare Purchasing, Funding and Performance Management Branch increased funding and screening targets for seven of the 11 BSQ services so that funding levels and screening targets were equal to or higher than the previous financial year for all services.

The mid financial year increase to targets by Healthcare Purchasing, Funding and Performance Management Branch in 2012/13 impacted significantly on the end of year position for the BSQ Cairns Service (target was increased by 1,300 screens or 9.2%) and the BSQ Brisbane Southside Service (target was increased by 1,136 screens or 2.5%). At the time of the allocation of additional funding, accompanied by an increased activity target, both services indicated that the revised targets would not be able to be met, taking into account service capacity and service demands.

Table 1: BreastScreen Queensland screening targets and actuals

BreastScreen Service	2012/13 Target		2012/13 Actual
Brisbane Northside	38,500	Screened	38,567
		% of target	100.2%
Gold Coast	29,000	Screened	29,404
		% of target	101.4%
Townsville	14,765	Screened	14,871
		% of target	100.7%
Rockhampton	11,707	Screened	11,481
		% of target	98.1%
Toowoomba	17,945	Screened	17,682
		% of target	98.5%
Sunshine Coast	30,878	Screened	30,908
		% of target	100.1%
Brisbane Southside	46,136	Screened	44,159
		% of target	95.7%
Wide Bay	13,000	Screened	12,927
		% of target	99.4%
Mackay	8,000	Screened	7,793
		% of target	97.4%
Ipswich	10,320	Screened	10,351
		% of target	100.3%
Cairns	15,400	Screened	14,848
		% of target	96.4%
Total	235,651	Screened	232,991
		% of target	98.9%

Comments from DDG HSCI:

Author: Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
3328 9004
15 July 2013

Cleared by: Kaye Pulsford
Executive Director
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3328 9083
15 July 2013

Cleared by: Dr Stephen Lambert
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Chief Health Officer Branch
3234 1137
16 July 2013

Cleared by: Dr Michael Cleary
Deputy Director-General
Health Service and Clinical Innovation
3405 6181
July 2013

Pages 15 through 19 redacted for the following reasons:

Access refused in full - Sch 3(6)(c)(i) - parliament

DOH-DL-13/14-005



Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
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Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009267

Dr Richard Ashby
Chief Executive
Metro South Hospital and Health Service
Princess Alexandra Hospital
199 Ipswich Road
WOOLLOONGABBA QLD 4102

Dear Dr Ashby

To assist you with managing the agreed activity targets for breastscan, I will be writing to you each month advising you of your monthly data on the number of women screened in your Hospital and Health Service. As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services.

The activity target for Metro South Hospital and Health Service is 46,136 women screened. The year to date activity level as at 30 April 2013 is 35,968 women screened which is 78% of the full year target.

I would like to work with you to actively manage activity targets for Metro South Hospital and Health Service and therefore more broadly, contribute to greater reductions in mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland. Factors you might like to consider that could increase activity prior to the end of the financial year and into the future include: promotion of available appointments/BSQ services through local media/advertising efforts; provision of after-hours appointments and associated rostering arrangements and filling/backfilling of any vacant radiographer positions.

I look forward to working with you and your staff in achieving future activity targets and improving the health and well-being of Queensland women.

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer

24 / 05 / 2013

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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
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File Ref: CH009267

Ms Julia Squire
Chief Executive
Townsville Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 670
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810

Dear Ms Squire

To assist you with managing the agreed activity targets for breastscreen, I will be writing to you each month advising you of your monthly data on the number of women screened in your Hospital and Health Service. As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services.

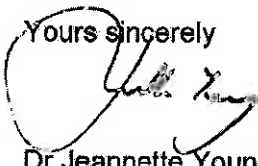
The activity target for Townsville Hospital and Health Service is 14,765 women screened. The year to date activity level as at 30 April 2013 is 11,590 women screened which is 78.5% of the full year target.

I would like to work with you to actively manage activity targets for Townsville Hospital and Health Service and therefore more broadly, contribute to greater reductions in mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland. Factors you might like to consider that could increase activity prior to the end of the financial year and into the future include: promotion of available appointments/BSQ services through local media/advertising efforts; provision of after-hours appointments and associated rostering arrangements and filling/backfilling of any vacant radiographer positions.

I look forward to working with you and your staff in achieving future activity targets and improving the health and well-being of Queensland women.

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely


Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
20/05/2013

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Mr Kevin Hegarty
Chief Executive
Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service
Nambour General Hospital
PO Box 547
NAMBOUR QLD 4560

Dear Mr Hegarty

To assist you with managing the agreed activity targets for breastscreen, I will be writing to you each month advising you of your monthly data on the number of women screened in your Hospital and Health Service. As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services.

The activity target for Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service is 30,878 women screened. The year to date activity level as at 30 April 2013 is 25,066 women screened which is 81.2% of the full year target.

I would like to work with you to actively manage activity targets for Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service and therefore more broadly, contribute to greater reductions in mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland. Factors you might like to consider that could increase activity prior to the end of the financial year and into the future include: promotion of available appointments/BSQ services through local media/advertising efforts; provision of after-hours appointments and associated rostering arrangements and filling/backfilling of any vacant radiographer positions.

I look forward to working with you and your staff in achieving future activity targets and improving the health and well-being of Queensland women.

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer

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Ms Kerri Mahon
A/Chief Executive
Metro North Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 150
RBWH Post Office
HERSTON QLD 4029

Dear Ms Mahon

To assist you with managing the agreed activity targets for breastscreen, I will be writing to you each month advising you of your monthly data on the number of women screened in your Hospital and Health Service. As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services.

The activity target for Metro North Hospital and Health Service is 38,500 women screened. The year to date activity level as at 30 April 2013 is 32,581 women screened which is 84.6% of the full year target.

I would like to work with you to actively manage activity targets for Metro North Hospital and Health Service and therefore more broadly, contribute to greater reductions in mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland. Factors you might like to consider that could increase activity prior to the end of the financial year and into the future include: promotion of available appointments/BSQ services through local media/advertising efforts; provision of after-hours appointments and associated rostering arrangements and filling/backfilling of any vacant radiographer positions.

I look forward to working with you and your staff in achieving future activity targets and improving the health and well-being of Queensland women.

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
27/05/2013

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Mr Kerry McGovern
Chief Executive
Mackay Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 5581
Mackay Mail Centre
MACKAY QLD 4741

Dear Mr McGovern

To assist you with managing the agreed activity targets for breastscreen, I will be writing to you each month advising you of your monthly data on the number of women screened in your Hospital and Health Service. As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services.

The activity target for Mackay Hospital and Health Service is 8,000 women screened. The year to date activity level as at 30 April 2013 is 6,724 women screened which is 84.1% of the full year target.

I would like to work with you to actively manage activity targets for Mackay Hospital and Health Service and therefore more broadly, contribute to greater reductions in mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland. Factors you might like to consider that could increase activity prior to the end of the financial year and into the future include: promotion of available appointments/BSQ services through local media/advertising efforts; provision of after-hours appointments and associated rostering arrangements and filling/backfilling of any vacant radiographer positions.

I look forward to working with you and your staff in achieving future activity targets and improving the health and well-being of Queensland women.

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer

29 / 05 / 2013

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Mr Rob Calvert
Chief Executive
Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service
Gold Coast Hospital
108 Nerang Street
SOUTHPORT QLD 4215

Dear Mr Calvert

To assist you with managing the agreed activity targets for breastscreen, I will be writing to you each month advising you of your monthly data on the number of women screened in your Hospital and Health Service. As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services.

The activity target for Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service is 29,000 women screened. The year to date activity level as at 30 April 2013 is 23,729 women screened which is 81.8% of the full year target.

I would like to work with you to actively manage activity targets for Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service and therefore more broadly, contribute to greater reductions in mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland. Factors you might like to consider that could increase activity prior to the end of the financial year and into the future include: promotion of available appointments/BSQ services through local media/advertising efforts; provision of after-hours appointments and associated rostering arrangements and filling/backfilling of any vacant radiographer positions.

I look forward to working with you and your staff in achieving future activity targets and improving the health and well-being of Queensland women.

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer

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Ms Maree Geraghty
Chief Executive
Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service
Level 2
36 East Street
ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700

Dear Ms Geraghty

To assist you with managing the agreed activity targets for breastscreen, I will be writing to you each month advising you of your monthly data on the number of women screened in your Hospital and Health Service. As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services.

The activity target for Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service is 11,707 women screened. The year to date activity level as at 30 April 2013 is 8,827 women screened which is 75.4% of the full year target.

I would like to work with you to actively manage activity targets for Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service and therefore more broadly, contribute to greater reductions in mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland. Factors you might like to consider that could increase activity prior to the end of the financial year and into the future include: promotion of available appointments/BSQ services through local media/advertising efforts; provision of after-hours appointments and associated rostering arrangements and filling/backfilling of any vacant radiographer positions.

I look forward to working with you and your staff in achieving future activity targets and improving the health and well-being of Queensland women.

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer

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Ms Julie Hartley-Jones
Chief Executive
Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service
Cairns Base Hospital
The Esplanade
CAIRNS QLD 4870

Dear Ms Hartley-Jones

To assist you with managing the agreed activity targets for breastscreen, I will be writing to you each month advising you of your monthly data on the number of women screened in your Hospital and Health Service. As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services.

The activity target for Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service is 15,400 women screened. The year to date activity level as at 30 April 2013 is 12,506 women screened which is 81.2% of the full year target.

I would like to work with you to actively manage activity targets for Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service and therefore more broadly, contribute to greater reductions in mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland. Factors you might like to consider that could increase activity prior to the end of the financial year and into the future include: promotion of available appointments/BSQ services through local media/advertising efforts; provision of after-hours appointments and associated rostering arrangements and filling/backfilling of any vacant radiographer positions.

I look forward to working with you and your staff in achieving future activity targets and improving the health and well-being of Queensland women.

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
29/05/2013

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147-163 Charlotte Street
Queensland Health Building
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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009267

Ms Lesley Dwyer
Chief Executive
West Moreton Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 73
IPSWICH QLD 4305

Dear Ms Dwyer

To assist you with managing the agreed activity targets for breastscreen, I will be writing to you each month advising you of your monthly data on the number of women screened in your Hospital and Health Service. As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services.

The activity target for West Moreton Hospital and Health Service is 10,320 women screened. The year to date activity level as at 30 April 2013 is 8,026 women screened which is 77.8% of the full year target.

I would like to work with you to actively manage activity targets for West Moreton Hospital and Health Service and therefore more broadly, contribute to greater reductions in mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland. Factors you might like to consider that could increase activity prior to the end of the financial year and into the future include: promotion of available appointments/BSQ services through local media/advertising efforts; provision of after-hours appointments and associated rostering arrangements and filling/backfilling of any vacant radiographer positions.

I look forward to working with you and your staff in achieving future activity targets and improving the health and well-being of Queensland women.

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
24/05/2013

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Response
letter



Office of Chief Executive

**Darling Downs Hospital
and Health Service**

Enquiries to: Dr Peter Bristow
Telephone: (61 7) 4699 8412
Facsimile: (61 7) 4699 8400
Our Ref: HSCE 141-13

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
Department of Health
GPO Box 48
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Dr Young

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service's (DDHHS) performance against its agreed activity targets for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services as detailed in our 2012/13 Service Agreement.

Our service is cognisant of our full year activity target of 17,945 women screened, a number which was increased by 945 screens through the course of the prolonged negotiations which extended into the 2013/13 financial year to avoid a reduction in funding for this program.

Further to the target attainment cited in your correspondence, I can confirm that the service has reached 89.4% of its full year target by the end of May (16,044 screens). Modelling for the remaining month suggests the service will have provided 17,500 screens by June 30, placing it within 2% of its activity target.

Whilst acknowledging that the service may experience a shortfall of up to 500 screens against target, I would highlight the following mitigating factors in assessing its performance:

- 2012/13 has coincided with the year in our two year travel cycle which involves more remote travel, which naturally detracts from time available for screening. By way of comparison, the service's previous screening peak in an equivalent year was 17,009 screens in 2008/09, which was not sustained in 2010/11, when 16,838 screens were provided;
- DDHHS supported the transition to PACS (Picture Archiving Communications System) in December, 2012, with a three week changeover and training period which resulted in a loss of approximately 175 screening appointments. In light of recent media coverage of the impact of the transition from analogue to digital screening in South Australia, I believe the caution shown in planning and implementing this change was warranted;
- The service also underwent NQMC reaccreditation in February 2013, which, I am pleased to advise, resulted in accreditation for the maximum period of four years;

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ABN 64 109 516 141

- The Darling Downs were affected by two significant weather events in early 2013, which resulted in widespread flooding affecting travel throughout the region. Our estimates suggest 50 screening appointments were lost as a direct result of these events; and
- The service has continued to support a Radiographer who commenced an extended period of leave due to illness in August 2012. Whilst locum coverage has been secured for the majority of this time, this role was vacant for a six week period in February and March, representing a loss of approximately 600 screens.

Further to the suggestions in your letter regarding promotion of the availability of BSQ services, I would also highlight that the continuing restrictions on advertising are cited as a limiting factor by our service, particularly given the intervals between visits by our mobile service to rural and remote communities. The service is clearly making effective use of local media channels, given demonstrated growth in all the rural centres where screening has been completed to date, but we would, none the less, express a preference for having a full spectrum of operational choices open to us locally.

In closing, the DDHHS will continue to ensure capacity to perform at a level commensurate with the obligations of our Service Agreement and our commitment to improving the health and well being of Queensland women.

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Ms Megan Morse, Executive Director, Allied Health on (07) 4699 8061.

Yours sincerely



Dr Peter Bristow FRACP FCICM FRACMA GCM GAICD
Chief Executive
Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service

5 / 6 / 2013

Cc Mr Craig Carey
 Megan Morse



Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009267

Dr Peter Bristow
Chief Executive
Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service
Level 2, Cossart House, Toowoomba Hospital
Pechey Street
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Dear Dr Bristow

To assist you with managing the agreed activity targets for breast screen, I will be writing to you each month advising you of your monthly data on the number of women screened in your Hospital and Health Service. As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services.

The activity target for Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service is 17,945 women screened. The year to date activity level as at 30 April 2013 is 14,271 women screened which is 79.5% of the full year target.

I would like to work with you to actively manage activity targets for Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service and therefore more broadly, contribute to greater reductions in mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland. Factors you might like to consider that could increase activity prior to the end of the financial year and into the future include: promotion of available appointments/BSQ services through local media/advertising efforts; provision of after-hours appointments and associated rostering arrangements and filling/backfilling of any vacant radiographer positions.

I look forward to working with you and your staff in achieving future activity targets and improving the health and well-being of Queensland women.

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer

29 / 05 / 2013

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Department of Health

Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009326

Ms Julie Hartley-Jones
Chief Executive
Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service
Cairns Base Hospital
The Esplanade
CAIRNS QLD 4870

Dear Ms Hartley-Jones

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity - Cairns and Hinterland HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	15,400 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	13,711 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer
24/06/2013

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Department of Health

Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
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Preventive Health Unit
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Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009326

Mr Rod Boddice
A/Chief Executive
Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service
Level 2
36 East Street
ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700

Dear Mr Boddice

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity - Central Queensland HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	11,707 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	10,148 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer

24/ 06 /2013

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Department of Health

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Director
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File Ref: CH009326

Dr Peter Bristow
Chief Executive
Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service
Level 2, Cossart House, Toowoomba Hospital
Pechey Street
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Dear Dr Bristow

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity – Darling Downs HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	17,945 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	16,038 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer

24/06/2013

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Department of Health

Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009326

Mr Rob Calvert
Chief Executive
Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service
Gold Coast Hospital
108 Nerang Street
SOUTHPORT QLD 4215

Dear Mr Calvert

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity -- Gold Coast HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	29,000 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	26,562 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer
24/ 06 /2013

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Department of Health

Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009326

Mr Kerry McGovern
Chief Executive
Mackay Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 5581
Mackay Mail Centre
MACKAY QLD 4741

Dear Mr McGovern

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity – Mackay HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	8,000 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	7,309 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer
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Department of Health

Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
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Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009326

Ms Julia Squire
Chief Executive
Townsville Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 670
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810

Dear Ms Squire

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity – Townsville HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	14,765 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	13,369 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer

24 / 06 / 2013

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Department of Health

Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
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Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009326

Ms Lesley Dwyer
Chief Executive
West Moreton Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 73
IPSWICH QLD 4305

Dear Ms Dwyer

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity – West Moreton HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	10,320 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	9,111 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer

24 / 06 / 2013

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Department of Health

Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
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Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009326

Mr Adrian Pennington
Chief Executive
Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 341
BUNDABERG QLD 4670

Dear Mr Pennington

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity – Wide Bay HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	13,000 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	11,973 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer
24 / 06 /2013

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Department of Health

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File Ref: CH009326

Ms Kerri Mahon
A/Chief Executive
Metro North Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 150
RBWH Post Office
HERSTON QLD 4029

Dear Ms Mahon

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity – Metro North HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	38,500 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	36,027 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer
24 / 06 /2013

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Department of Health

Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
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Dr Richard Ashby
Chief Executive
Metro South Hospital and Health Service
Princess Alexandra Hospital
199 Ipswich Road
WOOLLOONGABBA QLD 4102

Dear Dr Ashby

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity - Metro South HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	46,136 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	40,457 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer
24/ 06 /2013

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Department of Health

Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009326

Mr Kevin Hegarty
Chief Executive
Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service
Nambour General Hospital
PO Box 547
NAMBOUR QLD 4560

Dear Mr Hegarty

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity – Sunshine Coast HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	30,878 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	28,505 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer

24 / 06 / 2013

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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009396

Ms Julie Hartley-Jones
Chief Executive
Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 902
CAIRNS QLD 4870

Dear Ms Hartley-Jones

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services were detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs). It is timely to provide final advice to HHSs in relation to the level of BSQ screens provided in the 2012/13 financial year.

Breastscreen activity as at 30 June 2013 – Cairns and Hinterland HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	15,400 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 30 June 2013)	-	14,848 screens

Consistent with the Hospital and Health Service Performance Management Framework, the Department of Health has considered the option to withdraw allocated funding on a pro rata basis with respect to the level of under delivery. The breastscreen activity shortfall of 552 screens in 2012/13 equates to funding of \$99,912 given your HHS's 2012/13 screening unit cost of \$181/screen. On this occasion the Department has decided to not seek the reimbursement of this funding.

In the 2013/14–2015/16 Service Agreements, BSQ screening activity has been included as Key Performance Indicator 2.16 with a 98% target for the proportion of the annual breastscreen activity level achieved. Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide breastscreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly pro rata basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Should you or your staff require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
12 / 8 / 2013

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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009396

Mr Rod Boddice
A/Chief Executive
Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 871
ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700

Dear Mr Boddice

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services were detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs). It is timely to provide final advice to HHSs in relation to the level of BSQ screens provided in the 2012/13 financial year.

Breastscreen activity as at 30 June 2013 – Central Queensland HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	11,707 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 30 June 2013)	-	11,481 screens

Consistent with the Hospital and Health Service Performance Management Framework, the Department of Health has considered the option to withdraw allocated funding on a pro rata basis with respect to the level of under delivery. The breastscreen activity shortfall of 226 screens in 2012/13 equates to funding of \$40,228 given your HHS's 2012/13 screening unit cost of \$178/screen. On this occasion the Department has decided to not seek the reimbursement of this funding.

In the 2013/14–2015/16 Service Agreements, BSQ screening activity has been included as Key Performance Indicator 2.16 with a 98% target for the proportion of the annual breastscreen activity level achieved. Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide breastscreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Should you or your staff require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
12 / 8 / 2013

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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009396

Dr Peter Bristow
Chief Executive
Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 405
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Dear Dr Bristow

Thank you for your letter of 5 June 2013 advising of the environmental and operational issues affecting the BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) Toowoomba service in the 2012/13 financial year. I acknowledge the setbacks that the service faced and appreciate the efforts made by staff members to strive to reach the activity target.

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BSQ services were detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs). It is timely to provide final advice to HHSs in relation to the level of BSQ screens provided in the 2012/13 financial year.

Breastscreen activity as at 30 June 2013 – Darling Downs HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	17,945 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 30 June 2013)	-	17,682 screens

Consistent with the Hospital and Health Service Performance Management Framework, the Department of Health has considered the option to withdraw allocated funding on a pro rata basis with respect to the level of under delivery. The breastscreen activity shortfall of 263 screens in 2012/13 equates to funding of \$40,239 given your HHS's 2012/13 screening unit cost of \$153/screen. On this occasion the Department has decided to not seek the reimbursement of this funding.

In the 2013/14–2015/16 Service Agreements, BSQ screening activity has been included as Key Performance Indicator 2.16 with a 98% target for the proportion of the annual breastscreen activity level achieved. Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide breastscreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Should you or your staff require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer

12 / 6 / 2013

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DOH-DL-13/14-005

Document No. 45



Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
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Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009396

Mr Ron Calvert
Chief Executive
Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service
Gold Coast Hospital
108 Nerang Street
SOUTHPORT QLD 4215

Dear Mr Calvert

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services were detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs). It is timely to provide final advice to HHSs in relation to the level of BSQ screens provided in the 2012/13 financial year.

Breastscreen activity as at 30 June 2013 – Gold Coast HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	29,000 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 30 June 2013)	-	29,404 screens

This level of performance surpasses the contracted and funded activity level. I would like to acknowledge and recognise the hard work and commitment of the BSQ staff members in your HHS in achieving this outcome in 2012/13.

In the 2013/14–2015/16 Service Agreements, BSQ screening activity has been included as Key Performance Indicator 2.16 with a 98% target for the proportion of the annual breastscreen activity level achieved. Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide breastscreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Should you or your staff require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
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Mr Kerry McGovern
Chief Executive
Mackay Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 5580
Mackay Mail Centre
MACKAY QLD 4741

Dear Mr McGovern

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services were detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs). It is timely to provide final advice to HHSs in relation to the level of BSQ screens provided in the 2012/13 financial year.

Breastscreen activity as at 30 June 2013 – Mackay HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	8,000 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 30 June 2013)	-	7,793 screens

Consistent with the Hospital and Health Service Performance Management Framework, the Department of Health has considered the option to withdraw allocated funding on a pro rata basis with respect to the level of under delivery. The breastscreen activity shortfall of 207 screens in 2012/13 equates to funding of \$39,330 given your HHS's 2012/13 screening unit cost of \$190/screen. On this occasion the Department has decided to not seek the reimbursement of this funding.

In the 2013/14–2015/16 Service Agreements, BSQ screening activity has been included as Key Performance Indicator 2.16 with a 98% target for the proportion of the annual breastscreen activity level achieved. Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide breastscreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly pro rata basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Should you or your staff require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

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12/8/2013

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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
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Mr Malcolm Stamp
Chief Executive
Metro North Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 150
RBWH Post Office
HERSTON QLD 4029

Dear Mr Stamp

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services were detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs). It is timely to provide final advice to HHSs in relation to the level of BSQ screens provided in the 2012/13 financial year.

Breastscreen activity as at 30 June 2013 – Metro North HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	38,500 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 30 June 2013)	-	38,567 screens

This level of performance surpasses the contracted and funded activity level. I would like to acknowledge and recognise the hard work and commitment of the BSQ staff members in your HHS in achieving this outcome in 2012/13.

In the 2013/14–2015/16 Service Agreements, BSQ screening activity has been included as Key Performance Indicator 2.16 with a 98% target for the proportion of the annual breastscreen activity level achieved. Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide breastscreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Should you or your staff require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
12 / 8 / 2013

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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
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Facsimile: 3328 9296
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Dr Richard Ashby
Chief Executive
Metro South Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 4043
EIGHT MILE PLAINS QLD 4113

Dear Dr Ashby

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services were detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs). It is timely to provide final advice to HHSs in relation to the level of BSQ screens provided in the 2012/13 financial year.

Breastscreen activity as at 30 June 2013 – Metro South HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	46,136 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 30 June 2013)	-	44,159 screens

Consistent with the Hospital and Health Service Performance Management Framework, the Department of Health has considered the option to withdraw allocated funding on a pro rata basis with respect to the level of under delivery. The breastscreen activity shortfall of 1,977 screens in 2012/13 equates to funding of \$247,125 given your HHS's 2012/13 screening unit cost of \$125/screen. On this occasion the Department has decided to not seek the reimbursement of this funding.

In the 2013/14–2015/16 Service Agreements, BSQ screening activity has been included as Key Performance Indicator 2.16 with a 98% target for the proportion of the annual breastscreen activity level achieved. Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide breastscreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly pro rata basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Should you or your staff require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
12 / 8 / 2013

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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
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Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009396

Mr Kevin Hegarty
Chief Executive
Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service
Nambour General Hospital
PO Box 547
NAMBOUR QLD 4560

Dear Mr Hegarty

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services were detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs). It is timely to provide final advice to HHSs in relation to the level of BSQ screens provided in the 2012/13 financial year.

Breastscreen activity as at 30 June 2013 – Sunshine Coast HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	30,878 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 30 June 2013)	-	30,908 screens

This level of performance surpasses the contracted and funded activity level. I would like to acknowledge and recognise the hard work and commitment of the BSQ staff members in your HHS in achieving this outcome in 2012/13.

In the 2013/14–2015/16 Service Agreements, BSQ screening activity has been included as Key Performance Indicator 2.16 with a 98% target for the proportion of the annual breastscreen activity level achieved. Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide breastscreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Should you or your staff require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer

12 / 8 / 2013

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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
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Facsimile: 3328 9296
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Ms Julia Squire
Chief Executive
Townsville Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 670
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810

Dear Ms Squire

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services were detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs). It is timely to provide final advice to HHSs in relation to the level of BSQ screens provided in the 2012/13 financial year.

Breastscreen activity as at 30 June 2013 – Townsville HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	14,765 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 30 June 2013)	-	14,871 screens

This level of performance surpasses the contracted and funded activity level. I would like to acknowledge and recognise the hard work and commitment of the BSQ staff members in your HHS in achieving this outcome in 2012/13.

In the 2013/14–2015/16 Service Agreements, BSQ screening activity has been included as Key Performance Indicator 2.16 with a 98% target for the proportion of the annual breastscreen activity level achieved. Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide breastscreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Should you or your staff require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
12/18/2013

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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009396

Ms Lesley Dwyer
Chief Executive
West Moreton Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 73
IPSWICH QLD 4305

Dear Ms Dwyer

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services were detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs). It is timely to provide final advice to HHSs in relation to the level of BSQ screens provided in the 2012/13 financial year.

Breastscreen activity as at 30 June 2013 – West Moreton HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	10,320 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 30 June 2013)	-	10,351 screens

This level of performance surpasses the contracted and funded activity level. I would like to acknowledge and recognise the hard work and commitment of the BSQ staff members in your HHS in achieving this outcome in 2012/13.

In the 2013/14–2015/16 Service Agreements, BSQ screening activity has been included as Key Performance Indicator 2.16 with a 98% target for the proportion of the annual breastscreen activity level achieved. Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide breastscreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Should you or your staff require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer

12/8/2013

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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9298
File Ref: CH009398

Mr Adrian Pennington
Chief Executive
Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 34
BUNDABERG QLD 4670

Dear Mr Pennington

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services were detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs). It is timely to provide final advice to HHSs in relation to the level of BSQ screens provided in the 2012/13 financial year.

Breastscreen activity as at 30 June 2013 – Wide Bay HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	13,000 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 30 June 2013)	-	12,927 screens

Consistent with the Hospital and Health Service Performance Management Framework, the Department of Health has considered the option to withdraw allocated funding on a pro rata basis with respect to the level of under delivery. The breastscreen activity shortfall of 73 screens in 2012/13 equates to funding of \$10,147 given your HHS's 2012/13 screening unit cost of \$139/screen. On this occasion the Department has decided to not seek the reimbursement of this funding.

In the 2013/14–2015/16 Service Agreements, BSQ screening activity has been included as Key Performance Indicator 2.16 with a 98% target for the proportion of the annual breastscreen activity level achieved. Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide breastscreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Should you or your staff require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
12 / 8 / 2013

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Queensland
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Department of Health

Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
Telephone: 3328 9004
Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009326

Dr Richard Ashby
Chief Executive
Metro South Hospital and Health Service
Princess Alexandra Hospital
199 Ipswich Road
WOOLLOONGABBA QLD 4102

Dear Dr Ashby

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity – Metro South HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	46,136 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	40,457 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer

24/ 06 /2013

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Department of Health

Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
Director
Preventive Health Unit
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Facsimile: 3328 9296
File Ref: CH009326

Ms Julia Squire
Chief Executive
Townsville Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 670
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810

Dear Ms Squire

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity – Townsville HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	14,765 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	13,369 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer

24 / 06 / 2013

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Enquiries to: Mr Craig Carey
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File Ref: CH009326

Mr Adrian Pennington
Chief Executive
Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service
PO Box 341
BUNDABERG QLD 4670

Dear Mr Pennington

As you are aware, the agreed activity targets and funding levels for the provision of BreastScreen Queensland (BSQ) services are detailed in the 2012/13 Service Agreement with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

Cancer Screening, within the Chief Health Officer Branch's Preventive Health Unit, will continue to provide BreastScreen activity information to HHSs on a monthly basis to assist services in meeting contracted performance targets. Meeting these performance targets will contribute to reducing mortality and morbidity from breast cancer in Queensland.

Current breastscreen activity -- Wide Bay HHS

2012/13 contracted activity target	-	13,000 screens
2012/13 year to date activity (to 31 May 2013)	-	11,973 screens

Should you or your staff require further information, please contact Mr Craig Carey, Director, Preventive Health Unit on telephone (07) 3328 9004.

Yours sincerely

Dr Stephen Lambert
A/Chief Health Officer

24 / 06 / 2013

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BreastScreen Queensland and the role of the State Co-ordination unit

*Prepared by Dr. Christine Galbraith, Clinical Director, BreastScreen Queensland
Brisbane Southside Service*

16th August, 2012

Overview

BreastScreen Queensland is a jointly Commonwealth / State funded population based mammography screening program and is part of the BreastScreen Australia program.

Private mammographic screening does not attract a Medicare item number. All eligible women need to be able to access BreastScreen services.

The BreastScreen Queensland program is co-ordinated through the State Co-ordination unit, providing support to the eleven screening and assessment units. Considerable work over the years has enabled the Queensland program to deliver high quality services to all women of the state, and the integrated state system is considered one of the very best in the world.

The State co-ordination unit has been critical in developing this situation, and in doing so, has introduced numerous efficiencies.

The BreastScreen Australia program requires that all services are accredited by the National Quality Management Committee of BreastScreen Australia .

Critical Aims of BreastScreen Queensland

1. To identify breast cancers at an early stage when treatment is more straight forward and effective
2. To decrease the number of women dying from breast cancer (considering associated personal, social and health care costs)
3. To deliver equitable access to services to eligible women throughout Queensland
4. To deliver equitable quality of service to women throughout Queensland
5. To attract and maintain high quality breast radiologists, mammographers and film readers
6. To avoid any adverse outcomes (and subsequent medico-legal issues)

Particular challenges in the delivery of a high quality breast screening service to the women of Queensland

1. Geographical

- Film taking – at over 200 sites across the state
- Assessment services. Currently at 11 sites in the state, to enable all women to have reasonable access, but of necessity, this means that many services are quite small with limited personnel resources.
- Staffing (attracting, training, monitoring and retaining a highly skilled professional workforce)
- Provision of training, monitoring and feedback

2. Breast imaging requires very specific specialist skills. Professional skills required for a screening program are not part of standard professional training – breast imaging radiologists / radiographers / breast physicians and nurses need specific training. The skills are not likely to exist within the wider medical community. Many of the smaller services have required ongoing or intermittent support from the larger services, particularly in relation to film reading and assessment services.
3. Recruitment and retention of radiologists. Radiologists, particularly in regional areas, have many commitments, and working in BreastScreen is often not high priority. To encourage them to work in the program, radiologists need to be well supported with training, feedback and a sense of medical indemnity and medico-legal back up.
4. Development of a centralized reading model, so that all women have timely reads, including at least one of the reads being performed by a very experienced reader. (This should be in place statewide by the end of 2012.) A centralized reading system means that individual services will not have control over their cancer detection rates or recall to assessment rates (critical clinical and accreditation issues), and a high level of clinical governance and feedback will need to be co-ordinated centrally.
5. Use of standardized processes, so that each service does not need to develop its own. Service funding per woman screened has not increased significantly over 20 years, despite an approximate doubling of salaries over that time. An increasing number of tasks have been centrally (and efficiently) organized and funded (see below).

Some processes through which Services are supported centrally by the State Co-ordination unit

- Standardized letters, information sheets, consent forms (after input from clinicians, legal departments and consumer reference groups)
- Mail house letters generated as indicated (prompted by BSQR status). These include – well women letter after screening and assessment visits, screening invitations, assessment appointment confirmation letters, follow up letters after missed appointments.
- Development and management of the Electoral Roll strategy, whereby all women turning 50 are invited to join the program.
- Agreement on processes and documentation
- Standard consent forms to support same
- State contracts for radiologist readers
- Performance monitoring and feedback. When centralized reading system commences, readers from a given service will read films from all over the state, and a service will have most of its films read by readers from other centres. Reports and feedback will need to be at a much more detailed level than at present where reads are basically service based and follow up is at service level.
- Review and management of all medico-legal and potential medico-legal cases
- Arrange tender processes for all new imaging equipment, with careful review of all applicant products
- Review imaging quality and image taking settings to ensure consistency of images across the state.
- Obtain clarity from QH re medico-legal liability of employees and ensure all concerned are made aware of this
- Review research applications
- Provide reports on specific data / performance queries as requested
- Rationalization of mobile screening units, with radiographers employed to work on a specific unit. (No small service which employs perhaps three radiographers can have two away on the mobile unit at once and still cover services at the base unit. Therefore, services previously sent one radiographer from the base unit, or employed a locum. In either case, the

mobile units would only have one radiographer screening at a time, only utilising half the screening capacity of the expensive mobile units.)

- Deal with media enquiries
- Give guidance to services re appropriate media articles and other publicity
- Design and obtain funding for media campaigns
- Help services prepare for accreditation and organized accreditation site visits and follow up

Note – all these functions are important, and should be continued if a high quality, consistent Queensland service is to continue.

Risks associated with reallocating tasks and roles currently co-ordinated and generated through the State Co-ordination Unit of BreastScreen Queensland to Hospital and Health Services

1. The current SCU responsibilities which *are* to be taken up at Hospital and Health services level will require significant increase in staffing levels and expertise at local level. This would entail a significant increase in local expenditure, and cannot be met from within existing budgets.
2. Any of the current SCU responsibilities which are not to be continued centrally and are *not* to be taken up at district level (i.e. not to be continued at all) would cause a diminution in the quality and efficacy of local services, with political and medico-legal implications
3. Potential decreased screening capacity if extra tasks need to be provided at local level without an appropriate increase in funding – political and clinical implications
4. Decreased number of breast cancers identified at an early stage when management is much more straight forward (and less costly)
5. Lack of equity of access to quality health care delivery – political and clinical implications
6. Decrease in standards of film reading if there is decreased infrastructure to provide feedback to readers – political and clinical implications related to missed cancers

7. Decrease in training opportunities for high quality film taking and film reading, and decreased assessment and monitoring of skills required for film taking and films reading – political and clinical implications
8. Medico-legal implications / cost to Queensland Health of missed cancers
9. Potential medico-legal cases more likely to come to court / settlement without the skilled central unit to deal with possible issues.
10. Difficulty in attracting good breast radiologists if they feel there is not a central unit to support them

Summary

I have considerable longterm experience in the BreastScreen program, having worked at and supported several services across the state.

The State Co-ordination Unit of BreastScreen Queensland has developed and provided several support roles, which have enabled local services to function much more efficiently.

Several functions which are currently performed and funded through SCU would be less efficiently and more expensively performed at Hospital and Health Service level.

There are significant social, political and medico-legal and cost implications of moving away from the current centralized program.

Note – this document addresses only the direct operational effects of a change in organizational structure. It does not consider the service and quality issues as defined by the BreastScreen Australia program. Any proposed program changes within Queensland should be discussed with the national body to confirm that the changes would be consistent with national standards.

From: Anna Hanson
To: Renee Viellaris
Date: 1/08/2012 2:21 PM
Subject: Re: follow-up

Renee, I have no further information than what was in the response I sent you.

>>> "Viellaris, Renee" ViellarisR@gnp.newsltd.com.au 8/1/2012 2:09 pm >> (
<mailto:ViellarisR@gnp.newsltd.com.au>)

Q. I've also head that BSQ will be broken up and pushed back into the networks and that public health campaigns will also be devolved and split.
Can you please comment on both.

Renee Viellaris | National Affairs Reporter

The Sunday Mail

Bowen Hills 4006

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Email viellarisr@gnp.newsltd.com.au

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From: Anna Hanson [mailto:Anna_Hanson@health.qld.gov.au]

Sent: Wednesday, 1 August 2012 1:54 PM

To: Viellaris, Renee

Subject: Qld Health statement - public health services

Hi Renee

A statement in response to your questions is attached.

Regards

Anna

Anna Hanson
Media Manager
Media Unit

Integrated Communications | **Queensland Health**

PO Box 48 BRISBANE QLD 4000

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Queensland Health staff can visit the Integrated Communications QHEPS site at: http://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/integrated_communications (mailto:anna_hanson@health.qld.gov.au)

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From: Naomi Ford
To: HSCI_Corro; Jeannette Young; Michael Cleary
Date: 2/08/2012 2:49 PM
Subject: ADDITIONAL LINES: APPROVAL: COURIER MAIL - BreastScreen

extra lines re; campaigns for review also:

This Queensland Government is committed to reducing the burden of chronic disease, but we must first concentrate on focussing resources on frontline services. We must revitalise our healthcare services and improve access to healthcare for all Queenslanders. We will continue to invest in health awareness and prevention campaigns but we must ensure that our health dollars are wisely spent. For too long, there has been wasteful expenditure.

Naomi Ford

A/Director

Media & Communications

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M:

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>>> Naomi Ford 8/2/2012 2:29 pm >>>

Please attribute the following to Deputy Director General Health Service and Clinical Innovation Division Professor Michael Cleary:

As I advised yesterday, Queensland Health is considering devolving public health functions (including provision of BreastScreen services) to Hospital and Health Services, however these deliberations are at a very early stage.

Queensland Health continues to implement organisation changes as part of the Government's health reforms.

We have already seen a new organisational structure for Corporate Office, which has reduced the number of Divisions from nine to three (with two Commercialised Business Units).

As part of this process, Queensland Health is currently reviewing the management of public health

services (including BreastScreen Services) across the state and consultation on this has begun.

A final decision will be made once consultation has been finalised. Unions and staff will be advised in accordance with Queensland Health's industrial obligations.

This is consistent with this Government's approach that local decisions can be better made in local settings, not in centralised arrangements.

ENDS

Naomi Ford

A/Director

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>>> "Viellaris, Renee" <ViellarisR@qnp.newsltd.com.au> 8/2/2012 2:18 pm >>>

Q. I've head that BreastScreen Queensland will be broken up and pushed back into the networks and that public health campaigns will also be devolved and split.
Can you please comment on both.

r

Renee Viellaris | National Affairs Reporter

The Sunday Mail

Bowen Hills 4006

Direct 07 3666 6830 Fax 07 3666 6787

Email viellarisr@qnp.newsltd.com.au

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RTI Release

From: Naomi Ford
To: Michael Cleary
Date: 11/08/2012 10:11 AM
Subject: Re: Phone call

Sun Mail will be about Jennifer, breastscreen decentralisation, long wait lists for reconstructive surgery.

Yep next week is going to be difficult.

Cheers
Naomi

Naomi Ford
A/Director Media
Queensland Health

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Cleary
To: Naomi Ford <Naomi_Ford@health.qld.gov.au>

Sent: 11/08/2012 09:50:41
Subject: Re: Phone call

Hi.

Tricky week with the staff being upset about job security and the Jennifer issue.

Interesting about the CM. Suspect it will be something for the future.

Wonder what the sunday media will be like.

Next week could be tricky.

Kind Regards
Michael

Dr Michael Cleary
Deputy Director-General
Policy Strategy and resourcing Queensland Health
m: 0417 128619

-----Original Message-----

From: Naomi Ford
To: Michael Cleary <ClearyM@health.qld.gov.au>

Sent: 11/08/2012 08:49:20
Subject: Re: Phone call

No worries. How did your week pan out?

Sun Mail never sent through the question re you in the end. I think the Jennifer Muller story took over

Cheers
Naomi

Naomi Ford
A/Director Media
Queensland Health

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Cleary

To: Naomi Ford <Naomi_Ford@health.qld.gov.au>

Sent: 11/08/2012 08:47:57

Subject: Re: Phone call

Hi.

Yes all good.

Half just to say hello.

Kind Regards

Michael

Dr Michael Cleary

Deputy Director-General

Policy Strategy and resourcing Queensland Health

m: 0417 128619

-----Original Message-----

From: Naomi Ford

To: Michael Cleary <ClearyM@health.qld.gov.au>

Sent: 11/08/2012 07:54:23

Subject: Phone call

Sorry I missed your call last. Everything OK?

Cheers

Naomi

Naomi Ford

A/Director Media

Queensland Health

RTI Release

From: Naomi Ford
To: Michael Cleary
Date: 10/08/2012 4:11 PM
Subject: SLIGHTLY AMENDED SUNDAY MAIL - OK?

Please attribute the following to Queensland Health's Deputy Director-General Health Service and Clinical Information Division, Professor Michael Cleary:

"Queensland Health continues with its corporate restructure program in line with the national health reform process. As part of this process, the contracts of seven Executive Directors have ended. These Executive Directors were located in a range of units across Queensland Health's corporate office - BreastScreen Queensland is just one of those units. This has nothing to do with previous claims BreastScreen Queensland would cease to exist. A central coordination role for BreastScreen Queensland is continuing."

ENDS

>>> Michael Cleary <clearym@health.qld.gov.au> 8/10/2012 3:23 pm >>>

Hi,
OK with me.

Kind regards

Michael

Dr Michael Cleary
Deputy Director-General
Health Service and Clinical Innovation Division
Queensland Health
m:

Sent from my iPad

On 10/08/2012, at 3:13 PM, "Naomi Ford" <Naomi_Ford@health.qld.gov.au> wrote:

in your name?

>>> Michael Cleary <clearym@health.qld.gov.au> 8/10/2012 3:08 pm >>>

Hi,
I support this.

Kind regards

Michael

Dr Michael Cleary
Deputy Director-General
Health Service and Clinical Innovation Division
Queensland Health
m:

Sent from my iPad

On 10/08/2012, at 2:56 PM, "Naomi Ford" <Naomi_Ford@health.qld.gov.au> wrote:

OK with you Michael?

Naomi Ford

A/Director

Media & Communications

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M

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<https://www.facebook.com/QLDHealth>

>>> Jeannette Young 8/10/2012 2:55 pm >>>

Yes thank you

-----Original Message-----

From: Naomi Ford

Cc: Dan Harradine <Dan.Harradine@health.qld.gov.au>

To: Jeannette Young <Jeannette_Young@health.qld.gov.au>

To: Michael Cleary <ClearyM@health.qld.gov.au>

Cc: Anna Hanson <Anna_Hanson@health.qld.gov.au>

Sent: 10/08/2012 14:53:27

Subject: Fwd: media

further to my previous email - here's the journo's question

is the response something along the lines of:

"QH continues with its corporate restructure program in line with the national health reform process. I can confirm that this staff member's contract will expire on 7 September. This has nothing to do with previous claims BreastScreen Queensland would cease to exist. A central coordination role for BreastScreen Queensland is continuing."

Naomi Ford

A/Director

Media & Communications

QueenslandHealth

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BRISBANE QLD 4000

P: 07 3234 1368

M:

E: naomi_ford@health.qld.gov.au

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>>> "Viellaris, Renee" <ViellarisR@gnp.newsltd.com.au> 8/10/2012 2:43 pm >>>

I understand Jennifer Muller will be leaving BreastScreen Queensland and it is "a great shock" to staff

Email sendt to staff.

She will not return from leave before her contract with Queensland Health formally ends September 7. Craig Carey, who is the head of the Chronic Disease Branch in the Health Services and Clinical Innovation Division, will act in the role in an interim capacity while the future of the State Coordination Unit for the cancer screening programs and the structure of the cervical and bowel programs are decided by executive management.

Can you please comment on why her contract will no be renewed and why it has come as a great shock to staff

Renee Viellaris | National Affairs Reporter

The Sunday Mail

Bowen Hills 4006

Direct 07 3666 6830 Fax 07 3666 6787

Email viellarisr@gnp.newsltd.com.au

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RTI Release

From: Anna Hanson
To: news@health.qld.gov.au, Cleary, Michael, Dan_Harradine@health.qld.gov.au...
Date: 5/08/2012 5:37 AM
Subject: Shock as LNP government winds up iconic statewide cancer service BreastScreen

Shock as LNP government winds up iconic statewide cancer service BreastScreen
Renee Viellaris From: The Sunday Mail (Qld) August 05, 2012 12:00AM

Cancer survivor Dianne Lewis is distressed by changes to Breast Screen Queensland. Picture: Luke Marsden Source: The Sunday Mail (Qld)
BREASTSCREEN Queensland - the iconic statewide cancer service credited with saving thousands of lives - will be dismantled by the Newman Government.

The plan to break up the service, as well as bowel and cervical cancer programs, has shocked the Queensland Cancer Council, which now fears lives will be put at risk.

The state's 17 hospital and health boards will be given responsibility to co-ordinate and plan mammograms and other cancer tests.

They will be given a budget to provide services and set their own priorities for patient care. Board members will include clinicians, academics, small business owners and local identities.

It means BreastScreen Queensland, which has been operating for more than 20 years and last year had a budget of almost \$44 million, will no longer centrally control mobile breast screening vans or radiographer staff relief pools. A spokesman for Health Minister Lawrence Springborg said services should be provided locally.

Cancer Council spokeswoman Anne Savage said the decision could compromise the effective delivery of a vital service for women.

"It is unclear whether the devolution of public health functions to hospital and health services could result in discretionary decision-making that doesn't conform to clinical guidelines and evidence-based screening practices," she said.

Breast cancer survivor Dianne Lewis, when told of the plan, had a simple message for Mr Newman: "Don't change the system that saved my life."

Today, Mrs Lewis, 50, has outlined her case in a letter to Mr Newman, whose Government plans to dismantle BreastScreen Queensland and devolve its functions to 17 new hospital and health boards.

The mother of three has penned a letter to Mr Newman.

"Please, please, please I am begging you on behalf of all Queenslanders do not make any changes...the system works how it is," she said

"I am living proof of that and by making changes you are putting peoples life's at risk."

It was BreastScreen Queensland that sent Mrs Lewis a letter in 2006 to remind her she was due for a routine check-up.

Shortly after her visit, she received a follow-up call asking her to come back. That was when the cancer was detected.

Chief Health Officer Jeannette Young said no patient would be worse off and that mammograms were already provided in regional areas. She said patients would not notice any difference.

The head of Public Health and Social Work at Queensland University of Technology, MaryLou Fleming, said the model could fail because some health boards might not provide the same services or have the same priorities.

What do you think? Email yournews@thesundaymail.com.au or write to us at GPO Box 130, Brisbane, 4001. viellarisr@qnp.newsltd.com.au

RTI Release

From: Dan Harradine
To: Michael Cleary; Rebecca Wells
Date: 10/08/2012 12:12 PM
Subject: Three urgent questions

How many people in BreastScreen have been made surplus?
How many people in BreastScreen have been told no more contract (I assume just Jennifer Muller)?
Can you call me urgently about your level 3 meeting?

RTI Release

Dan Harradine - Re: Three urgent questions

From: Rebecca Wells
To: Dan Harradine
Date: Friday, 10 August 2012 12:43 PM
Subject: Re: Three urgent questions

understand kaye is giving you number answer.
Jennifer only one to be told her employment concluding.
Understand you are with Michael now. let me know how I can help.
bec

Rebecca Wells
A/Deputy Executive Director
Workplace Relations Unit
Human Resource Services
Queensland Health

P: (07) 30064624
M: 0409902301
E: rebecca_wells@health.qld.gov.au
Level 15 Queensland Health Building
147-163 Charlotte Street
GPO Box 48 BRISBANE QLD 4001

>>> Dan Harradine 10/08/2012 12:12 pm >>>
How many people in BreastScreen have been made surplus?
How many people in BreastScreen have been told no more contract (I assume just Jennifer Muller)?
Can you call me urgently about your level 3 meeting?

From: Michael Cleary
To: Dan.Harradine@health.qld.gov.au
Date: 12:55 PM Friday, 10 August 2012
Subject: Michael Cleary opened Three urgent questions

Michael Cleary opened Three urgent questions

RTI Release

From: Naomi Ford
To: Jeannette Young; Michael Cleary
CC: Dan Harradine
Date: 10/08/2012 2:46 PM
Subject: HEADS UP: BreastScreen

FYI - Jennifer Muller just phoned to advise a staff member had been contacted by Renee at the Sunday Mail for comment re: BreastScreen and also to confirm Jennifer Muller's contracted had been terminated. No response was provided to the journo. Jennifer did advise however, that she would be emailing her stakeholders to let them know that today was her last day.

RTI Release

From: Jeannette Young
To: Michael Cleary; Naomi Ford
CC: Anna Hanson
Date: 3/08/2012 4:16 PM
Subject: Fwd: RE: Q. What is Queensland's annual contribution to BreastScreen Queensland?

yes it is thanks

Dr. Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
Level 16
Queensland Health Building
147-163 Charlotte St
Brisbane QLD 4000
Phone: 07 3234 1137
Fax: 07 3221 7535
E-mail: Jeannette.Young@health.qld.gov.au

>>> Naomi Ford 3/08/2012 4:12 pm >>>
Is the response,

"These services are also part of the consultation process I have previously mentioned."

Naomi Ford

A/Director

Media & Communications

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M:

E: naomi.ford@health.qld.gov.au

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>>> Anna Caldwell 8/3/2012 4:05 pm >>>

>>> "Viellaris, Renee" <ViellarisR@gnp.newsltd.com.au> 8/3/2012 4:03 pm >>>

Is that Queensland's contribution?

And This has just come through:

State Coordination for the three population screening programs- breast, bowel and cervical – will be devolved.

Can you please get a comment for me. I have your comment on breast, but not for bowel and cervical.

Renee Viellaris | National Affairs Reporter

The Sunday Mail

Bowen Hills 4006

Direct 07 3666 6830 **Fax** 07 3666 6787

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From: Anna Caldwell [mailto:Anna_Caldwell@health.qld.gov.au]

Sent: Friday, 3 August 2012 4:01 PM

To: Viellaris, Renee

Subject: Re: Q. What is Queensland's annual contribution to BreastScreen Queensland?

Hi Renee,

BreastScreen Queensland operating expenditure for 2011/12 was \$43.84 million.

Thanks

Anna

Anna Caldwell

Senior Media Advisor

Media and Communication | **Queensland Health**

PO Box 48 BRISBANE QLD 4000
(07) 3405 3465 Ext:35465

Anna_Caldwell@health.qld.gov.au
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>>> "Viellaris, Renee" <ViellarisR@qnp.newsltd.com.au> 8/3/2012 12:55 pm >>>

Q. What is Queensland's annual contribution to BreastScreen Queensland?

Renee Viellaris | National Affairs Reporter

The Sunday Mail

Bowen Hills 4006

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From: Naomi Ford
To: Renee Viellaris
Date: 2/08/2012 5:29 PM
Subject: Qld Health response - BreastScreen

Hi Renee

Please find our response below re: BreastScreen. I understand the Minister's office will also be providing you with a statement.

Please attribute the following to Deputy Director General Health Service and Clinical Innovation Division Professor Michael Cleary:

"As I advised yesterday, Queensland Health is considering devolving public health functions (including provision of BreastScreen services) to Hospital and Health Services, however these deliberations are at a very early stage.

"Queensland Health continues to implement organisation changes as part of the Government's health reforms.

"We have already seen a new organisational structure for Corporate Office, which has reduced the number of Divisions from nine to three (with two Commercialised Business Units).

"As part of this process, Queensland Health is currently reviewing the management of public health services (including BreastScreen Services) across the state and consultation on this has begun.

"A final decision will be made once consultation has been finalised. Unions and staff will be advised in accordance with Queensland Health's industrial obligations.

"This is consistent with this Government's approach that local decisions can be better made in local settings, not in centralised arrangements."

ENDS

Naomi Ford

A/Director

Media & Communications

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>>> "Viellaris, Renee" <ViellarisR@qnp.newsltd.com.au> 8/2/2012 2:18 pm >>>

Q. I've head that BreastScreen Queensland will be broken up and pushed back into the networks and that public health campaigns will also be devolved and split.
Can you please comment on both.

r

Renee Viellaris | National Affairs Reporter

The Sunday Mail

Bowen Hills 4006

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From: Naomi Ford
To: Jeannette Young, Naomi Ford
CC: Michael Cleary
Date: 2/08/2012 3:29 PM
Subject: Re: ADDITIONAL LINES: APPROVAL: COURIER MAIL - BreastScreen

Happy to omit that last line

Cheers
Naomi

Naomi Ford
A/Director Media
Queensland Health

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeannette Young
Cc: Michael Cleary <ClearyM@health.qld.gov.au>
To: Naomi Ford <Naomi_Ford@health.qld.gov.au>

Sent: 02/08/2012 15:23:33
Subject: Re: ADDITIONAL LINES: APPROVAL: COURIER MAIL - BreastScreen

Dear Naomi

I would argue that the expenditure was not wasteful. eg As a result of the QUIT smoking campaign we know that there are hundreds of thousands of Qlders who have not developed smoking related diseases. If that last sentence could be omitted I would be grateful but of course I do understand if it needs to remain

regards
Jeannette

Dr. Jeannette Young
Chief Health Officer
Level 16
Queensland Health Building
147-163 Charlotte St
Brisbane QLD 4000
Phone: 07 3234 1137
Fax: 07 3221 7535
E-mail: Jeannette_Young@health.qld.gov.au

>>> Naomi Ford 2/08/2012 2:49 pm >>>
extra lines re; campaigns for review also:

This Queensland Government is committed to reducing the burden of chronic disease, but we must first concentrate on focussing resources on frontline services. We must revitalise our healthcare services and improve access to healthcare for all Queenslanders. We will continue to invest in health awareness and prevention campaigns but we must ensure that our health dollars are wisely spent. For too long, there has been wasteful expenditure.

Naomi Ford

A/Director

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ENDS

Naomi Ford

A/Director

Media & Communications

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>>> "Viellaris, Renee" <ViellarisR@qnp.newsltd.com.au> 8/2/2012 2:18 pm >>>

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Can you please comment on both.

Renee Viellaris | National Affairs Reporter

The Sunday Mail

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