Queensland Health

(As at 25 March 2015, Administrative Arrangements Orders have not been completed)

Department Role

The role of Queensland Health is to provide leadership and direction for the health sector, and create an environment that encourages innovation and improvement in the delivery of health services.

Resources

Full time equivalent employees\(^1\) – 71,081.10

2014-15 Portfolio Budget\(^2\):
- Controlled $20,648,470,000
- Administered $33,910,000

Department Structure

Director-General
Department Chief Executive.

Office of the Director-General
The Office of the Director-General provides support and advice to the Director-General and Minister for Health and uses strategic coordination to drive high quality health care and continuous improvement.

Health Services and Clinical Innovation
The Health Services and Clinical Innovation (HSCI) Division provides leadership and direction to both the Department and the broader Queensland health system including policy coordination, public and private regulation and the establishment of health system priorities.

Health Commissioning Queensland
Health Commissioning Queensland (HCQ) is responsible for commissioning and monitoring the performance of publicly funded health services on behalf of Queensland to optimise health gains, reduce inequalities and maximise efficiency and effectiveness of the health system.

HCQ has carriage of developing and implementing innovative ways to procure health services that drive quality outcomes, value for money, and capitalise on the strengths of all health sector players (public, private and not-for-profit). The division works to develop a health service market in which innovation and collaboration between government and non-government is actively encouraged. HCQ is responsible for ensuring that funding of more than $11B annually is used effectively to improve the healthcare provided for Queenslanders.

HCQ also seeks to maintain effective relationships with Health and Hospital Services (HHS), private providers and the non-government sector based on a shared understanding of all dimensions of the market, services and performance.

\(^1\) Source: Queensland Public Service Workforce Quarterly Profile as at September 2014
\(^2\) Source: State Budget 2014-15 Service Delivery Statements
Health Support Queensland
Health Support Queensland (HSQ) delivers a wide range of diagnostic, scientific and therapeutic clinical support services to enable the delivery of frontline health services. HSQ provides services to all HHSs, other government agencies and commercial clients.

Health Services Information Agency
The Health Services Information Agency (HSIA) is responsible for and coordinates the operating information systems and technologies for the department and HHSs. The agency currently hosts and manages a considerable number of key corporate and clinical systems that support Queensland Health clinicians and staff to undertake their day-to-day operations.

The HSIA is made up of four core business areas which are responsible for the strategic, program and project delivery, commercial and operational activities of the agency with a focus on delivering sustainable, value for money information and communication technology services for the Queensland public health system and patients.

Queensland Ambulance Service
The Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) objective is to provide timely and quality ambulance services which meet the needs of the community. The QAS provides publicly funded patient transport services and emergency pre-hospital care to the Queensland community.

Finance Branch
Finance Branch provides the Queensland Health System with a wide range of products and services through four operating units (Budget and Analysis; Finance Solutions; Finance Transactional Services; and Statutory and Advisory Services).

Legal and Governance Branch
The Legal and Governance Branch provides client focused corporate services that include Legal, Governance, Risk, Audit, Privacy and Right to Information, Corporate Facilities and Corporate Records Management. Legal Unit provides legal counsel to the Minister, Director-General, Deputy Directors-General and other senior officers, as well as all legal services for the department.

Human Resource Services
Human Resource Services provides Queensland Health-wide advice and support, including:

- human resource policy and strategy development
- employee relations and industrial reform
- executive remuneration frameworks
- safety and wellbeing systems capability and leadership initiatives
- advice and implementation support across Queensland Health for whole-of-government workforce initiatives.
Hospital and Health Services
The Hospital and Health Services (HHSs) are established as independent statutory bodies under the Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011 (the Act) and each is governed by a Hospital and Health Board. A HHS is accountable, through the Board Chair, to the Minister for Health for local performance, delivering local priorities and meeting national health standards. The Act sets out the functions and powers of the HHSs and their relationship with Queensland Health.

The 16 HHSs are as follows:
1. Cairns and Hinterland HHS
2. Central Queensland HHS
3. Central West HHS
4. Children’s Health Queensland HHS
5. Darling Downs HHS
6. Gold Coast HHS
7. Mackay HHS
8. Metro North HHS
9. Metro South HHS
10. North West HHS
11. South West HHS
12. Sunshine Coast HHS
13. Torres and Cape HHS
14. Townsville HHS
15. West Moreton HHS
16. Wide Bay HHS

Council of the Queensland Institute of Medical Research
The Queensland Institute of Medical Research, trading as the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute (‘QIMR Berghofer’), is a world-leading transnational research institute, established as a statutory body under the Queensland Institute of Medical Research Act 1945. QIMR Berghofer aims to improve health by developing prevention strategies, new diagnostics and better health treatments. Its research strategy focuses on three major areas: cancer, infectious diseases, and mental health and complex disorders.

Office of the Health Ombudsman
The Office of the Health Ombudsman is Queensland’s independent health complaints management agency and single point of entry for complaints relating to both registered and unregistered health practitioners, and also public, private and not-for-profit health service organisations.

Queensland Mental Health Commission
Supported by the Queensland Mental Health and Drug Advisory Council, the Commission seeks to drive ongoing reform towards a more integrated, evidence-based, recovery-oriented mental health and substance misuse system in Queensland. Established under the Queensland Mental Health Commission Act 2013, key functions include:
- monitor, review and report on issues affecting people with mental health or substance misuse issues, their families, carers and support persons, and people who are vulnerable to, or otherwise at significant risk of, developing mental health or substance misuse issues
- promoting prevention, early intervention and community awareness strategies.
Mental Health Court
The primary function of the Court is to determine unsoundness of mind and fitness for trial of people facing criminal proceedings. This ensures offenders with mental illness and intellectual disability are removed from the criminal justice system and their welfare is managed by the health and disability sector. Constituted under the Mental Health Act 2000 by a Supreme Court Judge, supported by two assisting psychiatrists, the Court is also the appeal body to the Mental Health Review Tribunal.

Mental Health Review Tribunal
The Mental Health Act 2000 provides for the involuntary assessment and treatment of persons with mental illnesses, while at the same time safeguarding their rights and balancing the rights of other persons. The purpose of the Tribunal is to review the involuntary status of persons subject to involuntary treatment. Additionally, the Tribunal role includes conducting reviews of forensic disability clients who are subject to a Forensic Order under the Forensic Disability Act 2011.

Panels of Assessors
Assessors serve as a pool of available members to support the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) to make decisions across a wide range of health related matters, including issues that may result in the suspension or cancelation of a health practitioner’s registration.

Hospital Foundations
The 13 Hospital Foundations help their associated hospitals provide improved facilities, education opportunities for staff, research funding and opportunities, and support the health and wellbeing of communities. They are established under the Hospitals Foundations Act 1982 and are administered by voluntary boards appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Health Minister. The Foundations do not receive any State Government funding.

The 13 Hospital Foundations are as follows:
1. Bundaberg Health Services Foundation
2. Children’s Health Foundation Queensland
3. Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation
4. Gold Coast Hospital Foundation
5. Ipswich Hospital Foundation
6. Mackay Hospital Foundation
7. Princess Alexandra Research Foundation
8. Redcliffe Hospital Foundation
9. Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital Foundation
10. Sunshine Coast Health Service Foundation
11. The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation
12. Toowoomba Hospital Foundation
13. Townsville Hospital Foundation

HIV Foundation Queensland
Established on 1 December 2013, the Foundation seeks to reduce HIV transmission in Queensland by implementing comprehensive prevention programs, increasing voluntary HIV testing and treatment uptake and reigniting awareness about HIV transmission, stigma and discrimination.
Queensland Health – Acts Administered

Health Ombudsman Act 2013
Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009
Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011
Hospitals Foundations Act 1982
Mater Public Health Services Act 2008
Mental Health Act 2000
Pest Management Act 2001
Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2001
Private Health Facilities Act 1999
Public Health Act 2005
Public Health (Infection Control for Personal Appearance Services) Act 2003
Queensland Institute of Medical Research Act 1945
Queensland Mental Health Commission Act 2013
Radiation Safety Act 1999
Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998
Transplantation and Anatomy Act 1979
Water Fluoridation Act 2008

Queensland Ambulance Service
Ambulance Service Act 1991