

2.3.23

# Memo



Health

Health System Strategy and Planning  
 Health and Social Policy Branch  
 H23/11274-2

TO Cathryn Cox, Chief Executive, Sydney Children's Hospital Network  
 Tracey McCosker, Acting Chief Executive, Hunter New England LHD

CC Dr Joanne Ging, Staff Specialist, Sydney Children's Hospital Network  
 Dr Paul Craven, Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families Services, HNELHD

FROM Vince McTaggart, A/Deputy Secretary, Health System Strategy and Planning

TEL DATE 07 March 2023

SUBJECT Enhancing End of Life Care funding and guidelines for paediatric palliative care

I am writing to inform you of the paediatric palliative care funding allocation for 2023-24 to 2026-27 from the Enhancing End of Life Care budget commitment. Funding guidelines and a planning template are provided.

In June 2022 the NSW Government committed \$743 million over 2022-23 to 2026-27 to improve access to end of life care for people across NSW. The Ministry has engaged with stakeholders to plan for the implementation and allocation of this funding over the next five years.

Initial funding of \$8 million was distributed to SCHN and HNELHD for the John Hunter Children's Hospital (JHCH) in 2022-23 for planning and service development roles, priority clinical positions and pain management. Distribution of \$11.4 million in funding for paediatric palliative care from 2023-24 onwards is contingent upon the submission of a joint funding plan. The scope of the funding and plan is activity to improve access to end of life and palliative care across NSW.

**Funding allocation for paediatric palliative care 2022-23 to 2026-27:**

Allocations	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	TOTAL
SCHN Allocation 1*	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$3,000,000
SCHN Pain allocation 1*	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$1,500,000
SCHN Pain allocation 2	-	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$1,200,000
JHCH Allocation 2*	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$2,000,000
JHCH Pain allocation 1*	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$1,500,000
Paediatric Enhancing End of Life Care**	-	\$2,100,000	\$3,100,000	\$3,100,000	\$3,100,000	\$11,400,000
	1,600	4,900	5,000	5,000	5,000	TOTAL \$20,600,000

\*Allocations complete. \*\*Split across SCHN and JHCH to be determined.

SCHN and JHCH are required to develop a joint funding plan which will recommend the appropriate division of the \$11.4 million funding between organisations. Funding is annualised.

Funding is intended for services providing care and supports for children approaching end of life. It is important planning is collaborative with all relevant stakeholders engaged in the process. Endorsement of the final funding plan is required from relevant service directors before it is submitted.

Funding plans should be developed in response to state wide service and population needs, and the budget distributed accordingly. The timeline for the submission of the funding plan is below:

- **21 April 2023** – Approved funding plan submitted
- **12 May 2023** – Chief Executives notified of funding plan review outcome

The approved funding plan should be returned to

For more information about the funding plan process, please contact Liz Junck, Director, Community Care and Priority Populations at

Yours sincerely

Vince McTaggart  
A/Deputy Secretary, Health System Strategy and Planning