



Speech By  
**Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk**


**MEMBER FOR INALA**

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Record of Proceedings, 1 November 2016

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

### Roma Hospital

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (9.38 am): I pleased to report to the House that the first of two early work packages at Roma Hospital will get underway today, with the relocation of the pathology department. The full program of pathology refurbishment and relocation works are to be completed by mid-December. Once the relocation is completed, the existing separate pathology building, the old nurses' quarters and the hospital swimming pool will be demolished to clear the area for the start of the construction of the new \$70 million hospital.

This new hospital was announced by my government in January and is set to contribute hundreds of jobs to the Roma community during the construction phase. The hospital is part of the Queensland government's \$180 million Enhancing Regional Hospitals program and is being built specifically to meet the needs of the region and its people and to reflect the latest advances in health care and technology.

The current Roma Hospital was built in the 1940s and, while it has served the area quite well, it has been my government which has committed to building a new one. I want to thank the health minister and the Treasurer. We are committed to making Queenslanders among the healthiest people in the world by 2026 and this means improving access to quality and safe health care in all of its different forms and settings, including in regional areas like the south-west.

In addition to the \$70 million new Roma Hospital project, a further \$11.3 million worth of health infrastructure works were either recently completed, underway or about to get underway in the south-west. They include upgrading and improvement works at Roma, Charleville, Cunnamulla, Injune and Quilpie.

I congratulate the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, Cameron Dick, on his commitment to making this project a reality. These works underline our determination to ensure that health facilities throughout the south-west remain up to date and fit for purpose now and into the future.