




Speech By
Hon. Shannon Fentiman

MEMBER FOR WATERFORD

Record of Proceedings, 21 March 2017

ADJOURNMENT

Logan Hospital

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (1.24 am): I rise to update the House on the investments in Logan Hospital, a hospital which every year sees more than 75,000 admissions to its emergency department. Logan Hospital is in the heart of my electorate of Waterford, beside the Meadowbrook TAFE and the Griffith University campus, creating a special science, research and health precinct in Logan. This education and health precinct services a city which will reach almost half a million people by 2031. Due to the growth in our great city, the Labor government has been investing strongly in our public hospital.

Logan Hospital now has 225 more medical and nursing staff than it did two years ago. I have toured the Logan Hospital with the nurses and midwives and I know just how much they appreciate the additional investment. It has seen an \$11.4 million boost to the emergency department which has delivered 41 new staff and 11 beds. It has seen a 90 per cent reduction in the ENT outpatient long-wait list. Last week Minister Dick announced that construction will start on the Logan Hospital car park expansion this year, delivering 500 new car parks for the hospital which will ease stress on staff and, of course, families and friends of patients.

Another investment which has been well received in Logan is the \$6 million drug and alcohol intervention unit, which is based at Logan Hospital. Logan is not immune to the growing threat of ice, which is tearing communities and families apart and presents a growing challenge for Queensland families, our hospitals, our police and our child safety officers. This new drug and alcohol intervention unit at Logan will help in our efforts to curb the use of this insidious drug.

Another key player in this battle on ice is the team at Logan Together. Logan Together is a trailblazing, whole-of-community effort to make sure all children in Logan from zero to eight years and their families have the start in life they deserve. Logan Together's partnership with Metro South Health has created trusted services to help people with addiction, including ice, and mental health issues get back on the right path. I commend Logan Together director Matthew Cox for his work with Queensland Health in this area.

Mr Power interjected.

Ms FENTIMAN: I take that interjection from the member for Logan. They are doing wonderful work. It is Labor that created Medicare. It is Labor that invests in nurses and doctors. It is this Labor government which introduced nurse-to-patient ratios, and it is Labor that will always support Logan residents having access to quality universal health care.