




Speech By
Hon. Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

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ADJOURNMENT

Caboolture Hospital, Upgrades

 **Hon. MT RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services) (6.21 pm): I have some great news for the people of the Caboolture region, and that is that the upgrades at the Caboolture Hospital continue. There is an exciting upgrade which is well underway, and listen to this: our ED expansion works are well underway at the Caboolture Hospital. These works, funded by a Labor government, will deliver for the Caboolture Hospital an extra 13 treatment spaces, including six fast-track beds, eight new short-stay beds, four short-stay chairs, a CT and X-ray room and a waiting area. It will be delivered by the middle of this year. It is \$19 million worth of upgrades and it will increase the emergency department's space from 800 square metres to more than 1,800 square metres.

There is also a second stage on the way too, and the second stage will commence very quickly in the midyear and be finished by the end of this year. That second stage includes refurbishing the existing waiting room, three assessment rooms, a dedicated mental health area and specialist paediatric area which includes its own waiting area with four beds, and that will be delivered by the end of this year. This is an investment in our hospital—a very important part of our community. It will also support many jobs during construction. We will see over 100 jobs supported during construction of these emergency department expansion works. Once those works are completed, there will also be an increase in the number of front-line medical, nursing and other health roles at our hospital to support the extra resource and capacity at our hospital.

That is just the next stage of the upgrade works at our hospital, because we will also have the major works starting next year. This is following our election commitment—a commitment of \$253 million in expansion works at our hospital. It will increase the hospital significantly with over 100 new beds, more facilities, more specialist areas and of course more car parks, which are in high demand at our hospital. This follows our investment just last term in 300 extra car-parking spaces—free car-parking spaces—for our staff at the hospital. This is a significant investment in the health services that are provided in our community, and it is a Labor government that does this. Who can forget that it was a Labor government that built the Caboolture Hospital, a Labor government that expanded the hospital a decade ago and it is a Labor government that is expanding the hospital once again to suit the needs and demands of those in our community?