




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles
MEMBER FOR MURRUMBIDGEE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Logan Hospital, Expansion

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumbidgee—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (9.51 am): I add my thoughts and thanks to the paramedics and hospital staff who have responded to those incidents that the police minister just referred to.

The new Logan Hospital rapid expansion is now open and treating patients with complex medical conditions. Last week I had the pleasure of visiting Logan Hospital to officially open the hospital's new, 28-bed medical ward. This project employed 78 construction staff, including eight apprentices. The \$9 million medical ward boosted the number of beds at Logan Hospital for patients requiring more complex treatment.

We know that demand for health care across the state is increasing, with more and more patients presenting to EDs for treatment. Logan Hospital has one of the busiest emergency departments in Queensland, with more than 90,000 people seeking medical treatment there each year and that number is growing each year. This extension will provide a much needed boost for the hospital's emergency department and their hardworking frontline staff, by not only delivering more beds for patients but also delivering more frontline staff to treat them.

On my visit to the ward, I met Dianne, one of the very first patients in ward 2M. Dianne lives in Waterford West and told me how happy she was to have access to modern healthcare facilities like ward 2M close to her home. I also had the pleasure of meeting some of the 77 additional full-time staff who will be working in ward 2M. That is more nurses, doctors, wardies and cleaners, which is more frontline jobs our government is delivering for Queensland.

It does not stop there. This rapid expansion is only the start of Logan Hospital's \$460 million major expansion that will deliver more services, 206 more beds and the care Logan deserves closer to home. Construction is nearing completion on a new mental health decision unit within the emergency department. This unit will provide a safe and quiet area for our mental health patients to be triaged and treated, while being in close proximity to the emergency department to ensure they have the best possible care. This year we will commence work on a major refurbishment of the hospital's maternity unit, birthing suites and special care nursery, as well as a new multistorey car park for patients and staff. This is in addition to the Palaszczuk government's commitment to backing frontline health workers with the hiring of an additional 206 doctors and 886 nurses across Metro South HHS already. This is the Palaszczuk government delivering for Queenslanders and for Queensland.