




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles
MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Queensland Ambulance Service; Coronavirus; Jobs

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (9.57 am): I want to start by offering my support to our ambulance staff who have had a horror week with tragedies in Cairns, Townsville and here in Brisbane. It is a reminder of what our brave frontline health staff can be confronted with, and I want them to know how grateful we are for the job they do.

I turn quickly to some good news. I can now advise that the first family who have been quarantined at the Gold Coast University Hospital were discharged overnight. Their eight-year-old son has recovered from the coronavirus and is no doubt very excited to get out of hospital. I want to thank the staff at the hospital for taking such excellent care of them.

The Palaszczuk Labor government continues to invest in Queensland jobs to support the future health of this state. This financial year will see a total of 150 construction jobs underway. These projects are building new health infrastructure to cater for the state's rapid growth and renewing existing infrastructure to ensure modern and well-equipped facilities for all Queenslanders. This construction is also playing a key role in the state's economy, supporting more than 1,200 full-time jobs, including more than 120 apprentices.

We are providing employment to Queenslanders across the state with metropolitan, regional, rural and remote communities directly benefiting from Queensland Health's built infrastructure investment. One regional community being supported by this investment is Roma. The new Roma Hospital redevelopment is supporting 111 full-time jobs over three years and making a significant contribution to the regional economy through the purchase of equipment, supplies and services.

The Nambour General Hospital redevelopment is forecast to support 63 full-time jobs over four years, while the construction of a new carpark at Redcliffe Hospital is set to support 55 full-time jobs over two years. Maintaining our existing assets also supports Queensland jobs with up to 238 full-time jobs supported each year in undertaking this important work. This infrastructure investment shows no sign of slowing down. Next financial year, even more jobs will be supported through our investment in Queensland's health future. We forecast that more than 1,500 full-time jobs will be supported across the state on 176 projects. We are proud to support hundreds of jobs for Queenslanders while continuing to enhance the state's healthcare system.