




Speech By
Mark Robinson

MEMBER FOR OODGEROO

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ADJOURNMENT

Redlands, Health System

 **Dr ROBINSON** (Oodgeroo—LNP) (7.06 pm): It was my pleasure last week to host in Cleveland the opposition Leader, David Crisafulli, and the shadow health minister, Ros Bates, at the Redlands RSL. The Redlands health crisis town hall meeting was well attended by locals who came to share their stories. Some spoke about their personal health issues, including terrible experiences due to the failure of the health system under the management of the Palaszczuk government. I table a *Redland City Bulletin* story on that.

Tabled paper: Article from the Redland City Bulletin, dated 10 November 2021, titled 'Locals complain of long emergency wait times at Redland Hospital during visit from LNP' [1955](#).

In the lead-up to the town hall meeting, I was contacted by a health professional from the Redland Hospital. This insider confirmed what the LNP opposition has been saying for some time—that the hospital is underfunded and poorly managed by the government. It has taken honest insiders to reveal the truth that things are far worse than the government is saying. I table a second story by the *Redland City Bulletin*.

Tabled paper: Article from the Redland City Bulletin, dated 15 November 2021, titled 'Redland Hospital maternity unit to take on general medical and surgery patients as staffer complaints' [1956](#).

Sadly, it has taken insiders to blow the whistle at places like Mackay Base Hospital and Caboolture Hospital to expose how bad things really are. In June it was revealed that ambulance ramping at Redland Hospital had blown out to a record bad 65 per cent, making Redland Hospital the worst performing in all of Queensland. The insider revealed in the lead-up to the town hall meeting that beds in the maternity section were going to be used for general purposes besides for local mums to have their babies. What is going to happen to Redland mums and bubs when they need those beds? At Redland Hospital there are no ICU beds, there are no new beds in new wards, they tried to remove palliative care beds and now they are repurposing maternity beds—no wonder Redland Hospital management is in a mess.

The Queensland health insider went on in the *Redland City Bulletin* interview to tell us that Redland Hospital health workers are exhausted, overworked, disrespected and ignored and that they have had enough and are speaking out and making complaints but they are going largely unheard. They are at breaking point, suffering from a culture of bullying and blame and they are put under great pressure to work beyond capacity. Executives are said to be using COVID as an excuse to cover for poor bed management. Paramedics were being told to take patients to other hospitals because of the ramping issues. The insider said that there had been many births at the maternity ward recently and was asked what would happen if a pregnant woman comes in who needs a bed when the beds are full.

One other matter that shows Labor say they care but do the opposite is the discontinuing of financial support for Homeless United in the Redlands. I table a third story from the *Redland City Bulletin*.

Tabled paper: Article from the Redland City Bulletin, dated 15 November 2021, titled 'Redland Community Centre's Homeless United program funding turned down' [1957](#).

I asked Minister Enoch a question without notice today, and I have sent a letter asking why she felt a local Redlands homeless service provider that had been funded and achieved great local results was not good enough to continue to be funded. Over 400 people have been assisted and 257 homeless people have been housed by this operation. I call on the minister to explain her decision and invest in this effective local Redlands agency.