




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR SOUTHPORT

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ADJOURNMENT

Health Services

 **Mr MOLHOEK** (Southport—LNP) (6.15 pm): I rise to take a few minutes to talk about some of those areas that fall under my new responsibilities as the assistant shadow minister for mental health and drug and alcohol treatment. Over the course of the last month I have had the privilege of meeting with Tamsin, Kelsie and Rachel from Alive, which is a community driven organisation based in Logan. They are working with young people around youth suicide. The mentoring support they are providing to young people is absolutely commendable. I will be speaking more about that in the coming months.

Last week I had the privilege of travelling with Ros Bates, the member for Mudgeeraba and shadow minister for health, out to Chinchilla and Dalby to visit some of our regional health and hospital services. Sadly, the watermelon festival in Chinchilla was postponed until further notice. There was no watermelon to be had. We did get to meet with the primary health network in Chinchilla on Wednesday evening last week. It is always a privilege to meet with people who are working on the front line in health and emergency services. They are an incredibly committed group of people in Chinchilla. A few from Dalby came down to join us for the evening. I am constantly blown away by the dedication and commitment of those who work in health service across the state.

We had the privilege of spending some time at the Chinchilla Hospital. The following day we went and visited Dalby Hospital. We talked with the staff at these frontline services and heard stories of how they have been dealing with the pressures of the last year and the challenges that have come as a result of COVID—although they have seen too many COVID cases out west. There are some incredible people working in some of our regional areas around Queensland.

The other place we visited was the Goondir Health Services in Dalby. We had the pleasure of catching up with CEO Floyd Leedie and chair Gary White. They are two remarkable people who are so committed to providing services. One of the things that blew me away was the innovation that they have driven. They have found ways to reach out during the lockdown. They have found ways to reach vulnerable patients in isolated communities by providing bluetooth connected tablets with heart monitors, scales, pulse oximeters and blood glucose monitors. The results are sent back by Telstra Purple to a monitoring centre where specialists can provide support, reminders and arrange crisis responses where necessary.