



Speech By  
**Hon. Yvette D'Ath**


**MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 June 2021

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Budget, Health**

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (9.53 am): The Palaszczuk government continues to deliver record investment in Queensland's public health system, with \$21.8 billion for the 2020-21 year and even more on the way for the 2021-22 year. We are also delivering an extra 9,475 doctors, nurses, paramedics and health staff over the next four years, and our investment does not end there. Our massive investment in health infrastructure is delivering new and improved health facilities right across this state.

As I travelled throughout Queensland earlier this month I saw firsthand the great results our health infrastructure investment, worth \$1.6 billion this financial year, is delivering. I was pleased to join the Premier this month to officially open the \$116.6 million Roma Hospital—a redevelopment which marks the single largest investment in health care in South-West Queensland since 1987. The redeveloped Roma Hospital now includes 22 beds, two birthing suites and two operating theatres and is capable of accommodating families and people travelling long distances for day surgery.

The Palaszczuk government and Mater Health Services are also teaming up to deliver a new public hospital based in Springfield as part of an investment worth more than \$1 billion over the next decade. This is a huge win for the Greater Ipswich community, with this new 174-bed facility to include an emergency department, an intensive care unit, maternity and other services.

We are also forging ahead with our \$399.5 million Caboolture Hospital construction project to cater for the ever-growing demand for health services in this growth region. I also had great pleasure this month to officially open the expanded and refurbished paediatric treatment area in Townsville University Hospital's emergency department. This \$1.6 million investment from the Palaszczuk government will increase the number of beds from seven to 12 and create a separate waiting area for children and their families—children like 13-year-old Bohdi Campbell, an asthmatic who, unfortunately, is a regular visitor to the hospital's emergency department. Bohdi helped me cut the ribbon to this brand new, state-of-the-art unit that will benefit North Queensland children and their families for years to come.

These are just some of the new facilities our massive spend in health infrastructure is delivering, and I look forward to delivering even more quality infrastructure as the health minister as part of the Palaszczuk government.