




Speech By
Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

Record of Proceedings, 22 February 2023

MOTION: QUEENSLAND HEALTH

 **Mr POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (5.19 pm): Mr Deputy Speaker Kelly, I cannot tell you how much it pleases me that I am following the member for Pumicestone in this debate this evening. As I rise to support the motion moved by my good colleague the member for Mudgeeraba, I want to focus on one particular aspect, and the member for Pumicestone raised it in her contribution—these satellite hospitals. Previously I have spoken at length about the Caboolture satellite hospital—the satellite hospital that literally is one kilometre down the road from a real hospital. However, let me tonight focus on the so-called satellite hospital in the member for Pumicestone’s electorate at Bribie Island. We need a bit of a history lesson here because, contrary to what the member for Pumicestone just said, they did not promise the people of Bribie Island a satellite hospital; they promised the people of Bribie Island a hospital. How do I know that? On 16 October 2020 the member’s own Facebook page said—

Our team is getting the word out—if you want Bribie to have a ... Hospital you need to vote Labor!

What did the signs say? ‘Labor will build a Bribie hospital’; ‘Bribie hospital! Thanks to Qld Labor’; ‘Vote Ali King for Bribie Hospital’; ‘Vote Labor for a Bribie hospital’. They do not once say the word ‘satellite’ on any of those corflutes around the electorate of Pumicestone. How has that gone down with the member for Pumicestone’s constituents? In early February—just this month—the member for Pumicestone put up a post on the Bribie Island Community Discussions page that said—

Did you know? Our Bribie Satellite Hospital will include a Minor Accident & Illness Centre open late 7 days a week

Let us see how that was received. David said—

A more accurate description would be a ‘clinic’. To call a clinic a ‘Hospital’ is typical politician speak.

As a ‘Hospital’ how many beds will it have.

As a ‘Hospital’ will it be 24 hour, 7 day a week.

As a ‘Hospital’ will it provide a greater range of emergency services greater than a local GP.

Please clarify how the facilities provided qualify this ‘clinic’ to be called a Hospital

Danny said—

This facility is much needed but by calling it a ‘hospital’ gives people on the island false expectation. Better to call it what it is ...

Then in response to Olivia, who asked, ‘What else will be at the clinic?’, the member herself said—

I will announce more details about what exactly the services will be when I get more information.

However, as Terry rightly pointed out—

... surely the services that will be provided are already settled? How the internal infrastructure (plumbing, oxygen outlets, electrical outlets etc) is designed will determine the services that can be offered.

Then Stronach says—

Is it true these ‘hospitals’ won’t be open at night, have overnight beds or be open all week? If so, how are they classed a ‘hospital’ please?

Then we have Janine—

... will it be 24 hours?

In response to that, the member says—

... the minor accident and illness Centre will be open early until late.

But not 24 hours. Perhaps the kicker was Heike, who said—

Really satellite hospital that isn't going to be open 24 hrs and basically no emergency centre what benefits is that to the Bribie Island people it is just a medical centre why spend the public money for something so useless

The member's response said—

If you don't find it useful, you'll still be able to travel to Caboolture and beyond to get hospital services—that's up to you.

The whole point of the hospital on Bribie Island was so that people did not have to run to Caboolture!

I want to conclude by saying that the member said that she is happy to stand by the member for Redcliffe, the health minister. When they did the sod turning, the Minister for Health put up a lot of photos of her alongside the member for Pumicestone doing the sod turning.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Member, you will not use that as a prop.

Mr POWELL: I am happy to table that, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Tabled paper. Social media posts by the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, Hon. Yvette D'Ath, dated 11 February, and the member for Pumicestone, Ms Ali King MP, dated 10 February, in relation to the Bribie Island Satellite Hospital [185](#).

What did the member for Pumicestone post? Well, who is missing? The Minister for Health! That is how much she stands by the Minister for Health. She does not! She does not want her anywhere near her because the member for Pumicestone knows that she has sold the people of Bribie Island a pup and they have been conned. This is not a hospital. It is barely a satellite hospital!

(Time expired)