




Speech By
Jimmy Sullivan

MEMBER FOR STAFFORD

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Prince Charles Hospital, The Common Good

 **Mr SULLIVAN** (Stafford—ALP) (2.22 pm): Being lectured to about the separation of powers and the appropriate operation of the Public Service by the member for Kawana is how I like my irony served! Thank you very much. It is with great pride that I inform the House that within the next week we will be turning the first sod for the new multistorey car park at the Prince Charles Hospital. This delivers on our election commitment from 2020 and will be of huge benefit to the local community. Importantly, the car park will remain under the ownership of the HHS, meaning that prices can be minimised for staff and patients and that the driving motivation will be care for our community rather than maximising profit.

This is great news for staff. I know how hard our local health staff work and the various hours throughout the week that their work demands. This new parking is not only at good cost; it also supports the safety of the staff who arrive at or leave the hospital at all hours of the day and night. It is great news for patients and their family and friends. When people are facing serious injury or treatment for diseases and when family and friends spend significant time visiting loved ones undergoing treatment, the last thing they should worry about is having to face exorbitant parking costs, so it is good news for them. Of course, it is a win for local residents in Chermside and Kedron—neighbours of the hospital—because it will take cars off local streets, making the surrounding area more accessible to local residents.

This is in addition to other initiatives progressing at the Prince Charles Hospital and the Common Good, which is the research and charity arm of the hospital. We have the ICU of the Future, creating world-leading design for making health care at what is the most distressing end of the health system spectrum just that little bit easier on patients, family and staff. We have the tradie hub researching solutions for the scourge of lung diseases that have reared their head from manufactured stone benchtops. It also has significant possibilities for the resources and agriculture industries.

It is not just research. The close collaboration between the research arm of the hospital and the HHS means that patients are actually being treated right now. This is on top of us delivering \$300 million for 93 new beds at the Prince Charles Hospital. To the south there are 150 new beds, with \$750 million at the RBWH for a specialist cancer centre. We are putting our money where our mouth is.

Let us compare that to the record of those opposite. They disgracefully closed the Barrett Adolescent Centre without a replacement. We know of the serious harm that was caused. I am proud that Jacaranda House is co-located with the Prince Charles Hospital—

Mr Crisafulli interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Order! Member for Broadwater.

Mr SULLIVAN: Those opposite sacked 1,500 health workers in Metro North alone. The Leader of the Opposition, who is very loud now, has not apologised—700 nurses on the north side alone.