




Speech By
Hon. Yvette D'Ath

MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Health Infrastructure

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (9.53 am): Earlier this year I was thrilled to announce that 12 major construction companies have been selected for the shortlist to build the Palaszczuk government's three new hospitals and nine of our major hospital expansions. Queensland Health has now called for tender submissions for these projects, which total more than \$8 billion. These projects will deliver 1,980 additional beds across Queensland over the next six years, with the Palaszczuk government delivering a total of more than 3,300 additional beds over this period.

In the south-east, works include the new hospital at Coomera and six major expansions at the Redcliffe, Ipswich, Logan, QEII, Princess Alexandra and Prince Charles hospitals. In regional Queensland, works include new hospitals in Bundaberg and Toowoomba and major expansions of the Townsville, Cairns and Mackay hospitals. I was delighted to visit the site of the new Toowoomba Hospital just a few weeks ago for the commencement of early works onsite by Hutchinson Builders. I am pleased that the shortlisted companies have already demonstrated their commitment to partnering with the government and are absolutely ready for this multibillion dollar challenge. The construction of these three new hospitals and nine major hospital expansions will also provide a significant economic boost and support local businesses, creating more than 19,900 construction jobs. I and everyone on this side of the House look forward to the successful tenderers being announced from April onwards into the following months.

I am also pleased to inform the House that this year has kicked off with a bang for health infrastructure projects on the Gold Coast with the awarding of tenders for more than \$210 million worth of projects. I would like to once again congratulate the successful tenderers: Watpac Constructions will build a \$122.7 million secure mental health rehabilitation unit with 40 beds at the Gold Coast University Hospital; Broad Construction will build the \$72 million expansion of the Gold Coast University Hospital's 70 additional subacute beds; and Alder Constructions will build the \$16.5 million Robina Hospital emergency department expansion with 20 extra treatment spaces. The Palaszczuk government's health infrastructure projects for the Gold Coast also include: the \$1.3 billion new Coomera Hospital with 404 beds; the 114-bed expansion of Robina Hospital; and the new Tugun Satellite Hospital. Queenslanders can always rely on the Palaszczuk government to deliver the health infrastructure projects we need to continue delivering our world-class health services.