




Speech By
Hon. Charis Mullen

MEMBER FOR JORDAN

Record of Proceedings, 16 April 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Health Infrastructure

 **Hon. C MULLEN** (Jordan—ALP) (Minister for Child Safety, Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (7.13 pm): If members want to see Labor's Big Build in action, then look no further than in the mighty Logan and Ipswich regions. The growing community that I represent deserves good quality health services and our Labor government is delivering with our health Big Build. In fact, we are delivering hundreds of new health beds to our growing regions through a range of major hospital expansions and new builds. How many exactly? Let's count them. The \$460 million stage 1 expansion of the Logan Hospital is almost complete. It will provide 206 beds and treatment spaces. There are four new floors and new wards, including a new cardiac ward, coronary care unit, medical assessment and planning unit, general medical ward and a palliative care ward. With a new intensive care unit, additional emergency department capacity and minor refurbishment works remaining, this is one of Queensland's largest ever hospital expansions. It is fantastic to see that it is already providing additional care for locals in Logan. Plans have now been released for the \$530 million stage 2 of the Logan Hospital expansion, which will deliver 10 operating theatres and 112 additional beds—all due to be completed by the end of 2026.

In the Ipswich region, we have seen stage 1 of the \$146.3 million master planned expansion of Ipswich Hospital completed. This has delivered a 26-bed ward and a refurbished space for allied health, oncology and outpatient care, as well as a brand new state-of-the-art MRI suite. Only last month I toured the construction site for the further \$710 million stage 2 expansion of the Ipswich Hospital. This stage will deliver 200 new beds, a new and expanded emergency department, additional operating theatres and a range of additional clinical services.

Of course, our new public hospital in Springfield, which is currently springing up from the ground, is an important health project that we are delivering in partnership with Mater Health Services. This is another 174 public overnight and same-day beds, an intensive care unit, a much needed emergency department, maternity services and additional high-level clinical services that are all under construction.

Of course, there are another 50 beds in our new acute mental health unit in Ipswich which we opened earlier this year. Ninety additional overnight subacute beds will be delivered at the Ripley Hospital subacute expansion that is currently under construction, and 45 beds at the new alcohol and other drugs withdrawal management and rehabilitation facility are also underway. So, how many health beds are we delivering? We are delivering over 900 health beds. Along with the over 3,600 frontline health staff that we have employed since 2015, only a Labor government can be trusted with the health of our communities in Logan and Ipswich.