




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR LOGAN

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ADJOURNMENT

Logan Hospital

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (6.09 pm): We all know that Jimboomba is the most Aussie place on earth and its residents are the most ‘Aussiest Aussies’ in this entire country, but I want to tell you a story that is something special. Tony came to me when I was down at the storm relief area and said that he had just been bitten by a brown snake in his own yard and he was suffering through the delirium of the poison that had affected him. He did not go to hospital. Instead, he kept drinking beer. Later, he began to have the effects of a serious bacterial infection. He said, ‘I knew it was serious when I could not finish my beer.’ So, finally, he drove himself to Logan Hospital. He told me this most Aussie of stories because he wanted to thank all the workers. He wanted to thank the doctors and nurses of Logan Hospital who, through their skilled treatment, saved his leg and, frankly, Tony, probably your life, mate. It was only afterwards that he worked out how serious his condition was. Perhaps his is an extreme case but we put off seeing the doctor for too long. That is one of the reasons there is extreme pressure on our hospitals across our state.

Logan is a huge growth area. I represent thousands of families who are moving into the area and they deserve to receive the care they need. During the period that the LNP were running health, they sacked Logan Hospital nurses and doctors. Indeed, they cut funding for vital neonatal care. I was even angrier to find out when I was first elected that the LNP budget contained nothing to expand the Logan Hospital. Instead, we had to start that investment from scratch. Nothing was done to plan for that growth. Health and planning takes time. That is why when there is a destructive government like the Newman government it hurts families like the ones in Logan.

In contrast, we have supported those in need in Logan. We built the 28-bed modular ward, a new 28-bed medical imaging ward, the 33-bed transit care—one of the first features they raised with me because the transit care at Logan Hospital needed updating, new treatment spaces in the emergency department, 12 new maternity suites with birthing pools, nine new mental health treatment spaces and 10 more online. We backed them by providing the doctors they needed. Now we are progressing to the main stage. The member for Algeester knows that there is an investment of over \$1 billion for the hospital expansion to deliver 300 more beds, new operating theatres, new endoscopy suites, new cardiac catheter labs and a new pharmacy. Last year, thanks to initiatives from senior ED clinicians, an access nurse and medical commander will be employed so that people can be seen faster and the hours of medical care will be expanded. Whenever Tony comes in with delirium after not seeking treatment from a snakebite, we know that the great nurses and doctors in the expanded Logan Hospital will be able to do an even better job caring for the people of Logan.