



Speech By  
**Christopher Whiting**


**MEMBER FOR BANCROFT**

---

Record of Proceedings, 26 August 2025

**MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

**Redcliffe Hospital, Expansion**

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (2.37 pm): Earlier today the Treasurer boasted about the cranes on the skyline around the Toowoomba Hospital, but he cannot boast about what is happening at Redcliffe Hospital because nothing is happening. On Thursday it will be five months since the LNP halted the building of the crucial Redcliffe Hospital expansion. Construction had already started on a nine-storey clinical services building. The piling foundations were starting to go into the ground. The day they announced the new Olympic stadium and aquatic centre was the day the piling contractor pulled out the last of its piling rigs from the Redcliffe Hospital site.

My team and I have been doorknocking in the area and telling people what the LNP is doing to our local hospital. The hospital staff we have met told us what is happening. They say they are overworked and overtime has been slashed. They say the hospital is overcrowded, with staff crammed into every available space and patients ramped up in corridors and places where they should not be. It is clear that we need the Redcliffe Hospital now. Our population is booming and putting pressure on this hospital right now.

We have not only been talking to local residents; my office has done some detailed statistical analysis of the public health data available for Redcliffe Hospital. What we discovered was that there was a higher wait time over the past year, with 90 per cent of patients waiting anywhere from 250 to 350 days to receive planned surgeries, compared to around 150 days a year earlier. October 2023 to June 2024 had a median wait time of 145 days for planned surgeries at Redcliffe Hospital. The median wait time for October 2024 to June 2025 had gone up to 285 days. Let me repeat: the median wait time for planned surgeries at Redcliffe Hospital has blown out from 145 days to 285 days under the LNP. This is how the LNP manages our local hospital.

Redcliffe locals feel that the Redcliffe Hospital has gotten worse with the LNP—that is what they tell me—and they are right. Not only have they cancelled a building project that would deliver the services that are needed now for this overworked and overcrowded hospital, but surgery waiting times are starting to blow out at Redcliffe Hospital under the LNP. Locals have seen through all of the promises the LNP have made about looking after our local hospitals. All they need to do is go down to Recreation Street in Redcliffe and have a look at the abandoned building site next to that hospital and they can decide for themselves if they can trust the LNP and the LNP member for Redcliffe to look after their local hospital.

That is not all. I have questions about the planned car park expansion under the LNP. The multistorey car park opened in 2020 at a cost of \$23.7 million. I know from my briefing at the time that the car park allows for an extra three storeys to be built on top of that—totalling 530 extra spaces. However, now the member for Redcliffe has stated on social media that the LNP have put out to tender a project to build just two extra storeys for 494 spaces. The question is: why aren't they building it to the planned full capacity? What are the reasons? Is this a cut to the planned size of the extended car

park? Is this another LNP cut and cancellation for Redcliffe Hospital? Locals want to know why the LNP is only doing two storeys on top of this car park when the original design catered for an extra three storeys.

Locals are really unhappy about what is happening at Redcliffe Hospital. We do not need to go and find opinions. Wherever I go around the area, people stop me to talk about the Redcliffe Hospital and they ask what is happening and why. All I can say is that the LNP are in control of this and they need to go and talk to them. Our locals are not happy about what is happening at the Redcliffe Hospital—the overcrowding, the overworked staff and the abandoned building site. They know that, with the LNP managing our local hospital and health service, it will always get worse.