




Speech By
Christopher Whiting

MEMBER FOR BANCROFT

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Redcliffe Hospital

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (2.51 pm): I rise to wish all our residents in Moreton Bay a merry Christmas. It has been another year gone and another year of nothing happening at Redcliffe Hospital.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr WHITING: That is such a shame. Let's have a look at what did not happen. On 25 March construction halted on the site and redundancies were issued. Honourable members have heard me say it before that the day the last drilling rig was pulled off site was the same day this government announced they were going to build a brand new sports stadium in South-East Queensland. As they have heard, the piling foundations for this building were already in the ground. There had been consultations with clinicians and non-clinicians; 27 groups were consulted over four rounds in the design of that building, which was halted. However, there is something that has happened onsite. Do members remember those piling foundations that I said were on site? They removed them all; they are gone. They got rid of those and kept those holes in the ground. That is the only construction they have done at Redcliffe Hospital.

Next year what are we going to see? Nothing is happening by the look at it with regard to the clinical services building. We did hear an announcement that they are going to go out to tender for an approved construction partner—whatever that is—but the opposition leader pointed out that September 2026 is when they are going to call for it. That is a year of nothing happening with regard to this clinical services building.

For patients, there is going to be nothing happening as well. We have done some new research on their stats. In terms of planned surgery waiting times for 90 per cent of patients, the median was 142.5 days under us. That has now gone out to a median waiting time of 266.5 days under the LNP. That is 142 days to 266. Not only that, I see from the September snapshot of their information that the number of planned surgeries performed had gone down 24 per cent. This is what we are seeing at Redcliffe Hospital and it is what we can expect next year for many people: nothing will be happening.

Let's be generous. What will happen next year? Maybe we will see the start of that car park extension at Redcliffe. It is interesting that, from what I hear, the contract was awarded for \$36 million, which is about the same as what it cost Labor to build that five-storey car park in 2020. It is the same cost. Costs have gone up, surprise, surprise. I did note that the company that won the contract, RCC, an interstate company, has a CFMEU EBA in other parts of Australia. I do not know what is going to happen on this site. It is interesting to think what the final cost is going to be for the car park and the clinical services building.

Ms SIMPSON: Mr Speaker—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr McDonald): Member for Bancroft, please continue.

Mr WHITING: It is going to cost more and more to build this clinical services building and the car park once they enter this Olympic building cycle.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Maroochydore, I thought you were rising on a point of order. There was still 10 seconds to go.