



Speech By  
**Hon. David Crisafulli**


**MEMBER FOR BROADWATER**

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Record of Proceedings, 29 April 2025

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Health System**

 **Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.38 am): Over the last decade, our health system descended into crisis. Under Labor's watch, ambulance ramping hit record highs and surgery waitlists spiralled. Critical projects were plagued by poor planning, delays and cost blowouts. As a result, too many families waited too long to receive the health services they deserve and too many of our hardworking staff were under pressure day after day. These healthcare workers have been stretched beyond their limits.

Our population is growing and aging and our health system must keep up. We have a plan to save our hospitals and healthcare workers from the chaos and crisis of the last 10 years. The Hospital Rescue Plan is our plan for the future of our health system. Our government will build new hospitals and upgrade and expand existing ones to deliver 2,600 extra hospital beds alongside more investment in a bigger health workforce. The Hospital Rescue Plan will be the largest investment in hospital infrastructure ever seen in Queensland's history.

Experts called Labor's hospital capacity expansion program undeliverable. That is why we commissioned an independent review into the program and the backlog of delayed maintenance. That review found major issues, including a lack of adequate planning, delays, underfunded projects and design flaws, which resulted in cost increases of around \$7 billion. Our government has listened to the independent review and will deliver easier access to health services, as we promised.

The Hospital Rescue Plan will include three new hospitals, a new Queensland cancer centre, 10 major hospital expansions and upgraded and expanded health facilities right across the state. We will get our health infrastructure projects back on track with a credible plan to deliver them. We have listened to our critical frontline clinicians and empowered local decision-making to develop an investment plan. At hospitals like Redcliffe, our plan will deliver more beds and a complete redesign. In Coomera, our government has committed to delivering at least 600 new overnight beds. In Bundaberg and Toowoomba, we listened to clinicians and we will save around \$600 million per year by relocating all services and existing beds to the new hospitals. More beds and expanded services in Brisbane, Townsville, Mackay, Hervey Bay, Ipswich, Logan and Cairns will ensure Queenslanders have easier access to the health care they need.

In rural and regional parts of the state we will expand clinical services like dialysis and CT scanning. Our plan will also ensure there will be better staff accommodation, which is absolutely vital to attract and retain critical health workers. We are also investing in the largest expansion of Queensland's health workforce with 46,000 additional health workers by 2032. We are delivering a homegrown health workforce strategy to train and hire the clinicians needed for the next decade. It will make it easier for students to study, train and work in Queensland, especially in rural and regional areas.

We are only just getting started on fixing the issues in our healthcare system. We will deliver infrastructure right across the state and give our healthcare workers the resources they need. Queenslanders deserve to have a health system they can rely on and that is why we are delivering the Hospital Rescue Plan.