

Question on Notice
No. 672
Asked on 16 June 2004

MRS SCOTT asked the Minister for Health (MR NUTTALL)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the soon-to-commence medical school at Griffith University on the Gold Coast and the proposed elevation of Logan to a teaching hospital-

- (1) What obligations will this impose on the hospital?
- (2) What benefits will flow to the community of Logan?

ANSWER:

Logan Hospital has hosted medical, nursing, allied health and paramedic students for many years. Logan Hospital's significant role as a teaching hospital was acknowledged this year when the hospital was formally gazetted as a teaching hospital under the *Health Services Act 1991*.

(1) As part of the establishment of the new medical school at Griffith University, Logan Hospital will provide clinical placements for medical students. The number of students and the clinical areas in which they will study are being finalized. The provision of clinical placements will involve a level of informal and formal teaching by hospital staff. Griffith University has committed to the appointment of additional staff to ensure that the provision of clinical education does not reduce the time that staff have available to provide clinical care.

(2) The benefits to the Logan community are many. Firstly many medical students seek employment at the hospitals at which they undertake their training. As a result it is likely that there will be an increasing number of newly graduated medical staff seeking employment at Logan Hospital in the coming years. Secondly, the close association of Logan Hospital with Griffith University including the opportunity for joint appointments and links with the Universities research facilities will be a positive factor in recruiting senior medical staff. Thirdly, Griffith is actively considering the clinical workforce needs of Queensland Health and Logan Hospital when making clinical academic appointments. The extensive knowledge and skill of the clinical academics will contribute to the high quality of health services at Logan. Fourthly, the additional staff and students will contribute to boosting the local economy through the use of local businesses and services.

The Queensland Government welcomes the establishment of Griffith's new medical school and looks forward to a long-term partnership with Griffith in contributing to training Queensland's future medical workforce.