

**Question on Notice
No. 792
Asked on 25 May 2005**

MS MOLLOY asked the Minister for Health (MR NUTTALL)—

QUESTION:

- (1) Will he outline the provision of future health services for residents of the Sunshine Coast?
- (2) How will the University of the Sunshine Coast initially play a role in this fantastic news?

ANSWER:

(1) It gave me great pleasure that an allocation of \$500 M for a new tertiary level hospital for the Sunshine Coast was included in the South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program 2005-2026. It is also pleasing to note that the Infrastructure Plan allocated a further \$50 million capital investment in the Caloundra Health Service.

To ensure that this massive investment is appropriately directed an extensive planning process for the delivery of health services on the Sunshine Coast will shortly commence.

These announcements are additional to other significant service development announcements. From January of this year a second operating theatre was commissioned at the Caloundra Health Service with the Government committing \$2M per annum to ensure greater access to elective surgery at Caloundra.

The commitment of \$14.7M for the construction of a Community Health Hub on the Sunshine Coast will ensure the creation of an innovative facility at which a range of primary and health promotion services will be available.

Of particular interest to the Member for Noosa is the election commitment of an extra \$1M per year for additional joint surgery for public patients at the Noosa Private Hospital. I am pleased to confirm for the member that the additional activity made possible by this commitment is on target with 62 additional cases to be completed by 30 June 2005.

- (2) The Premier's announcement following the recent community cabinet meeting held on the Sunshine Coast that the new hospital will be built on land adjacent to the Sunshine Coast University creates a number of exciting opportunities. The creation of a tertiary level health facility co- located with a growing university should ensure the development of partnerships.