

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 1479**  
**Asked on 29 November 2006**

MS LEE LONG asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)-

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the ageing Atherton Hospital buildings which service the increasing population needs of the Atherton Tablelands and are lucky to attract the services of resident medical specialists—

Are there any plans to construct a new hospital facility in the near future?

**ANSWER:**

Redevelopment of Atherton Hospital has been identified as one of a number of priorities for the Northern Area Health Service Asset Strategic Plan.

The Northern Area Health Service is currently undertaking service planning for the Cairns cluster, which includes the Tablelands. Following completion of the service planning, a review of capital needs will be undertaken and incorporated in a master planning exercise for a number of sites, including Atherton.

Prioritisation of capital infrastructure requirements will then be determined by the Northern Area Health Service and nominated on a Queensland Health Asset Strategic Plan for consideration by Government.