

Question on Notice
No. 14
Asked on 6 February 2007

MR O'BRIEN asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)-

QUESTION:

Will he provide an update on progress of the Weipa Hospital redevelopment?

ANSWER:

I am extremely pleased to be able to provide an update on the progress of the new Weipa Integrated Health Services facility. This initiative brings together acute care, primary health care and community health elements and enables the linkage with a collocated Queensland Ambulance Services facility.

In December 2006, the Government endorsed additional capital funding for this project. The new facility is to be constructed on a 'greenfield' site at John Evans Drive, Nanum.

It is anticipated that current negotiations will result in a preferred contractor being appointed within the coming weeks and a final contract agreement completed by the end of March 2007.

An indicative timeframe for the completion of works is the end of June 2008 but this will of course be dependent on weather conditions and industry capacity within Weipa. Opportunity exists for some early works to be undertaken by the Managing Contractor pending completion of design drawings to enable trade pricing.

The floor plan of the new facility is approximately 5,000 square metres and incorporates an extensive area for primary health care, acute inpatient area, residential aged care of 10 places, theatre/day procedure section plus accommodation for the Health Service District office.