

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 1203**  
**Asked on 15 September 2009**

MR WELLINGTON asked the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health (MR LUCAS)-

QUESTION:

What formula does the department use to calculate car parking requirements for new public hospitals and extensions to existing public hospitals?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Nicklin for his question.

The determination of car parking requirements for public hospitals varies from site to site depending on a range of factors including the type and level of specialty of services offered at each facility. A number of our larger public hospitals have commercial car parking stations operating on-site or nearby. Public transport varies greatly between metropolitan, outer metropolitan and regional centres. This variance in public transport impacts on private transport use and is also incorporated into the need for parking requirements.

Major hospitals are located within close proximity to railway stations or busway stations, for example, the Princess Alexandra Hospital (PA) is adjacent to the Dutton Park Railway Station and the new Boggo Road Busway, the Mater Hospitals are on the South-East Busway and close to the Vulture Street Railway Station, the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital has a dedicated Bus Station as part of the new Inner-Northern Busway. The site of the new Gold Coast University Hospital is on the proposed route of the Gold Coast Rapid Transport project and the Sunshine Coast University Hospital will have easy access to a transit centre that is proposed for the area. Obviously, such close access to major public transport facilities dramatically reduces demand for carparking.

To more accurately determine car park use and requirements, Queensland Health has, for recent projects, engaged traffic consultants to undertake traffic studies. Such traffic studies consider a broad range of information including:

- Out-patient data including average duration and arrival times;
- Inpatients/Emergency Department visitors to admitted patients;
- Admitted patients including number of beds and visitors;
- Peak staff parking demand;
- Additional activities at the hospitals such as university, research, laboratories and ancillary health; and
- The availability of parking alternatives including commercial car parks.