

Question on Notice
No. 1810
Asked on 12 November 2009

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

QUESTION:

With reference to the construction of the Thursday Island Chronic Disease Centre—

Will the Minister advise the (a) stage of construction, (b) original estimated cost and the revised estimated costs (reported separately), (c) original expected completion date (month and year), (d) expected completion date (month and year) as at 12 November 2009 and (e) project expenditure to date?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Condamine for his question.

The Thursday Island Chronic Disease Project has a number of parts, which have been developed and announced in stages over a number of years. It is not clear which stage of this project the Member is referring to when he refers to the “original estimated cost” or the “original expected completion date”. Each stage has been announced separately and the completion dates and costs are different.

Obviously, as additional elements have been added to the overall project, the cost has increased accordingly and the timeframe for delivery of the overall project (with the additional elements) has changed.

However, the estimated overall project cost, published in Budget Paper 3, is \$43.615M (including \$4.6M for the redevelopment of the helipad). That estimate remains consistent with the estimated costs of the various stages of the project as announced.

Further, I am pleased to advise the Member that Stage 1 of the project, the refurbishment of the Torres Strait Health Service District Outpatients’ Hostel, reached practical completion on 25 September 2009.

Another part of the project, the helicopter landing site, is also well advanced. It is expected that a construction tender will be awarded within the next month.

Future work will include the delivery of the final stages of the project, including the renal dialysis centre. Planning is advanced in relation to this work, and has had regard to the changing needs of the community and takes into account the additional work that has now been completed.

It is expected that construction of the final stage of the Chronic Disease Centre Project will go to tender in early 2010 with construction also set to commence next year.

As of 16 November 2009, \$6.4M has been expended on the project.