

## Question on Notice

No. 1023

Asked on 2 September 2021

**MS F SIMPSON** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH)—

### QUESTION

With reference to the Queensland Health websites which state the Sunshine Coast University Hospital (SCUH) will have 738 beds by 2021, from its opening capacity of 450 beds—

Will the Minister advise (a) how many beds does the hospital currently have operational, (b) when the 738 beds will be available and staffed for inpatients and (c) when the next stage taking the hospital capacity to 900 beds is projected to be completed?

### ANSWER

The Sunshine Coast University Hospital (SCUH) program was structured to be delivered across three stages. Stage 1 was completed in 2017, Stage 2 in 2018 and Stage 3 was completed on 30 June 2021.

I am advised the Sunshine Coast University Hospital currently has 664 available beds and has a built and commissioned capacity of 738 beds. The Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (HHS) is currently commissioning an additional 32-bed ward as part of the Palaszczuk Government's \$163.7 million investment into Phase 2 of our Care4Qld strategy, which will deliver an additional 351 beds across the state.

Services and capacity at the SCUH will continue to develop over the coming years including, but not limited to, beds being utilised to respond to surge capacity, for example in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am further advised that with the completion of Stage 3, the Sunshine Coast HHS continues to plan for new and complex service expansions in line with the Sunshine Coast HHS Master Clinical Services Plan which is scheduled for completion in 2021.

The SCUH has been master planned to allow further infrastructure expansion up to a total of 900 beds. Planning for this expansion will need to progress through a number of phases including concept and business case evaluation. This planning ensures that Queensland Health delivers the right services at the right time for Queenslanders, both now and into the future.