

Question on Notice

No. 1019

Asked on 12 September 2023

MR B HEAD ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR WOMEN (HON S FENTIMAN)—

QUESTION

With reference to the Biloela Hospital—

Will the Minister advise (a) is the surgical theatre compliant with all standards and (b) if not, (i) when did the government become aware of this, (ii) what upgrades are required, (iii) when will these upgrades occur, (iv) how much will they cost and (v) is this delaying the return to birthing at the Biloela maternity ward?

ANSWER

Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service (CQHHS) has an ongoing program of maintenance works to ensure each of its facilities are able to support the delivery of clinical services.

Biloela Hospital has a surgical theatre available to support the delivery of maternity services.

Biloela Hospital is currently delivering a reduced planned birthing service, but continues to provide antenatal and post-natal care for the community. All usual birthing services will be reinstated when adequate numbers of medical staff can be recruited to provide a safe and sustainable service.

Biloela Hospital will be upgraded under the Palaszczuk Government's \$1.038 billion Building Rural and Remote Health Program (BRRHP) Phase Two.

The new Biloela Hospital will deliver a new modern, fit-for-purpose building to support the delivery of contemporary models of care for local communities with new clinical spaces and medical technologies.

Planning will begin shortly with construction expected to commence mid-2024, weather and approvals permitting.