Question on Notice

No. 138

Asked on 5 March 2024

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

QUESTION

With reference to the recent announcement for a new Chinchilla Hospital—Will the Minister confirm (a) the number of additional beds, and the total number of beds this facility will have on completion, (b) that a fully equipped birthing and maternity unit will be included in this development, (c) that a CT Scanner will be included in the new facility, (d) that the community will be extensively consulted during the planning phase and (e) the expected completion date?

ANSWER

The new Chinchilla Hospital is part of the Building Rural and Remote Health Program.

I am advised that the project entered the concept planning phase in late February 2024.

Projects within the Building Rural and Remote Health Program are aimed at delivering contemporary infrastructure to address asset condition issues and provide safe and effective clinical environments to support the services that are needed in each community.

The facility is expected to maintain its existing service level of 10 beds and bed equivalent spaces. The details of other services to be provided in the new Chinchilla Hospital including birthing and maternity, will be developed through the concept planning phase.

In addition to the Building Rural and Remote Health Program, a statewide assessment is being undertaken to determine CT scanning investment for rural and remote facilities. This assessment will help determine the need for CT scanning services in the Chinchilla Hospital.

Community consultation will also be undertaken through concept planning and future phases of the project.

Construction is expected to commence early 2025 with completion mid-2026.