

Question on Notice

No. 1536

Asked on 10 December 2025

HON S FENTIMAN ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES
(**HON T NICHOLLS**)—

QUESTION

With reference to the \$18.536b allocated over five years to Queensland Health in the Budget for Queensland Hospital Rescue Plan—

Will the Minister advise (a) how much of that allocation was spent on the Townsville University Hospital expansion in 2025-26 to date and (b) how much has been allocated to be spent over the Forward Estimates (reported separately by financial year)?

ANSWER

The Crisafulli Government's Hospital Rescue Plan is an investment in the future of our health system, delivering more than 2,600 new beds right across metro, regional and rural Queensland. The Plan delivers a record \$18.5 billion investment – the biggest investment in health infrastructure in Queensland's history.

The Hospital Rescue Plan addresses the failures and oversights of the former government's Capacity Expansion Program, where not one project was able to be delivered in its announced timeframe or budget.

The former government's plan for the Townsville University Hospital Expansion had a \$500 million cost blowout and was delayed at least two years. The plan ignored advice from clinicians and included only 70% of clinical requirements. There was no pharmacy, no sterilising department and no link bridge to the existing hospital.

The Crisafulli Government's plan for the Townsville University Hospital Expansion will be fast-tracked to deliver stage 1 in 2029, including at least 165 new beds. This includes increasing the size of the new multi-storey car park from around 650 spaces to more than 1,000.

As reported in the 2025-26 Budget, \$911 million was allocated in 2025-26 for major hospital projects under the Hospital Rescue Plan, including the new Bundaberg, new Coomera and new Toowoomba Hospitals, the new Queensland Cancer Plan and expansions at Townsville, Redcliffe, Cairns (surgical centre), Mackay, and The Prince Charles Hospital.

A program level approach was taken as these projects are still in the planning phase in response to recommendations in the Capacity Expansion Program Independent Review Report (CEPIRR). As at 30 November 2025, expenditure across this budget line item in 25-26 is \$198 million. Annual cashflows for these projects are currently

under review in response to recommendations in the CEPIRR and therefore cannot be provided at this time.