

Question on Notice

No. 602

Asked on 22 May 2025

MR N DAMETTO ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON T NICHOLLS)—

QUESTION

With reference to the planned upgrades to the Ingham Hospital Emergency Department—

Will the Minister advise (a) what steps the government has taken to progress this project and (b) the current status of the upgrade?

ANSWER

It is vital that our health facilities are designed to support optimal patient care.

Frontline clinicians at Ingham Hospital have identified that improvements to the layout of the existing emergency department could have a positive impact not only their work, but the care they provide to patients.

In response to this feedback, the Townsville Hospital and Health Service has identified the need to upgrade the emergency department at Ingham Hospital as a local infrastructure priority.

Emergency departments do not operate in isolation of other parts of a hospital. Therefore, the broader requirements of the Ingham Hospital need to be considered before any major works are planned.

As a first step, the Townsville Hospital and Health Service will develop a clinical service plan for Ingham Hospital with the local clinical teams this year.

Once complete, the clinical service plan will drive the development of a revised infrastructure master plan. This will set the roadmap for expansion.

This process will take several months, but it is important that calm and methodical planning occurs, unlike planning processes experienced during the past decade. This will ensure major works respond not just to the current issues within the emergency department, but the current and future requirements of the whole hospital.

In the interim, I am pleased to say that work is continuing to deliver a much-needed CT Scanner at the Ingham Hospital. This is on track to be delivered in 2026.