

Question on Notice

No. 79

Asked on 19 February 2025

MR SHANE KNUTH ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON T NICHOLLS)—

QUESTION

With reference to Helipad services at Innisfail Hospital, and noting that while the previous Health Minister's advised in May 2024 that an independent assessment report had been completed, it appears the assessment is still being considered— Will the Minister advise if the Minister will immediately release the findings of the assessment and authorise the resumption of Helipad services at Innisfail Hospital?

ANSWER

I refer the Member to my answer to his question without notice on 14 March 2025.

The existing Helicopter Landing Site at Innisfail Hospital is currently not available for helicopter operations due to being non-compliant and an unacceptable public safety risk posed by rotor downwash from helicopters operating to the helipad.

I am advised that a feasibility report is in development and consultation has been undertaken with Queensland Ambulance Service and Retrieval Services Queensland and has considered several options, on and off site, whilst ensuring appropriate safety considerations.

I understand that the report is expected to be completed by the end of March 2025. Upon completion of the report, the Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service will be working through the preliminary findings and it would be inappropriate to release the report until this has been carried out.