

Question on Notice

No. 391

Asked on 22 April 2026

HON M RYAN ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON T NICHOLLS)—

QUESTION

With reference to Answer to Question on Notice No. 607 of 2025—

Will the Minister provide an updated answer to the question outlined in that Question on Notice as at 20 April 2026 (or closest reportable date)?

ANSWER

- a) I am advised that the capital budget for the new Mental Health Intensive Care Unit (MHICU) is \$4.32 million (ex GST), and the annual operational budget is \$2.64 million (ex GST).
- b) The project will refurbish an existing area within the Caboolture Hospital Mental Health building.
- c) The Principal Contractor was awarded on 3 December 2025 with construction commencing on 26 January 2026.
- d) Operational commencement will follow practical completion.
- e) The new MHICU will focus on alleviating existing bed pressures for acute mental health presentations at Caboolture Hospital and provide a space which allows consumers to recover and heal. There will be four single, high-dependency rooms, and one seclusion room. There is significant pressure on the health system after ten years of poor planning, delayed delivery of new beds, and significant cost blowouts.
- f) The MHICU is expected to require 13.2 FTE.
- g) This service has been developed in response to strong community demand for improved access to intensive mental health care options in the Caboolture region. Multiple consultation meetings and site visits were held with mental health and other stakeholders throughout design and delivery.