

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 4**

**Asked on 10 February 2026**

**HON GLENN BUTCHER** ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON T NICHOLLS)—

### **QUESTION**

Will the Minister advise the total number of residents of the Gladstone Local Government Area travelling to Rockhampton for renal treatment?

### **ANSWER**

In March 2025, the Crisafulli Government expanded the Gladstone renal dialysis service, growing from four to six chairs. I am advised that there are currently nine patients who travel to Rockhampton for dialysis. This includes five patients who do not currently meet the criteria to receive their dialysis treatment at Gladstone service because they have extremely complex clinical needs.

The Member may also be pleased to see that the Crisafulli Government is delivering a new, start-of-the-art modular expansion at Gladstone Hospital, providing 51 new bed and treatment spaces, including six renal dialysis chairs.

The expansion will also include provision to increase to 60 beds and treatment spaces to meet growing demand. This significant investment by the Crisafulli Government follows a 2021 infrastructure audit report, of which the former government failed to release, which showed that the Gladstone Hospital was in a dire state.

The report showed that minimal repairs, maintenance and urgent defect works were carried out – if any at all.

The report identified fire dampers in place 15 years after their expected end-of-life, significant cracking observed in several areas, considerable damage to walls, deteriorated flooring, notable damage to ceiling tiles, and evidence of water damage. This necessitated the closure of the entire top floor of 'Block 2', one of the main hospital buildings on the Gladstone campus.

This has severely impacted the capacity of Gladstone Hospital and is a direct result of underinvestment in infrastructure and maintenance over a decade.

The Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme (PTSS) supports eligible patients who are required to travel more than 50 kilometers to access medical treatment.