

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 466**

**Asked on 12 May 2026**

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

### **QUESTION**

With reference to the Queensland Health nurse-to-patient ratio mandates—

Will the Minister advise the current mandatory number of FTE nurse positions required at the Cairns Hospital, when operating at tier 2 capacity, during (a) day shift and (b) night shift?

### **ANSWER**

I am advised that the mandatory number of nursing FTE positions is dependent on:

- the occupied beds
- the mix of ward types and clinical services in operation; and
- whether wards are within the scope of the legislated ratio framework.

The legislated requirement is applied on a ward-by-ward and shift-by-shift basis, rather than as a single whole-of-hospital staffing number. It would be calculated based on the hospital's operational bed capacity and patient occupancy at the relevant time.