

## Question on Notice

No. 48

Asked on 11 February 2026

**MS WENDY BURKE** ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON T NICHOLLS)—

### QUESTION

With reference to the latest monthly reporting for November 2024 on the Queensland Health's Performance Website indicating that patients waiting longer than clinically recommended ready for surgery at Ipswich Hospital saw an increase of 1,411.8 percent from November 2024 to November 2025—

Will the Minister advise the number of elective surgeries cancelled by either patient or Queensland Health, at Ipswich General Hospital during this reporting period (in table format, reported separately by month, specialty and category with a separate table per month, where the y-axis reports the specialty and the x access reports the category and total, with the values provided in the table and not a reference number to a value that sits outside of the table)?

### ANSWER

I am advised that cancellations can occur for a multitude of reasons, including: the case being brought forward; patient no longer requires treatment; patient treated elsewhere; a priority emergency or elective case; staffing shortages; availability of beds; and more.

Cancellations can occur as part of the routine changes to scheduling sometimes occurring well in advance of the day of surgery. Therefore, day of surgery cancellations is the most meaningful measure to reflect elective surgery performance.

The Crisafulli Government remains committed to improving access to elective surgery and reducing the number of patients waiting longer than clinically recommended timeframes. The Member would be pleased to learn that the Crisafulli Government has invested a record \$1.8 billion investment into Surgery Connect and elective surgery capacity, including in Ipswich.

The Crisafulli Government has also rescued the Ipswich Hospital Expansion Project, which suffered a more than \$200 million cost blow out and 6-month delay under the former government. This project will deliver additional bed and operating theatre capacity.

The below tables provide breakdowns of surgery cancellations by month, specialty, and category from November 2024 to November 2025 (inclusive). I note that during this period, one operating theatre was offline between 21 December 2024 and 3 March 2025 for critical maintenance.

I further note a similar number of surgeries were cancelled during the same period the year prior, when more than 1,250 surgeries were cancelled.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Surgeries Cancelled</b>
Nov-24	121
Dec-24	104
Jan-25	122
Feb-25	128
Mar-25	179
Apr-25	88
May-25	99
Jun-25	147
Jul-25	148
Aug-25	133
Sep-25	146
Oct-25	111
Nov-25	71

<b>Specialty</b>	<b>Surgeries Cancelled</b>
Ear nose and throat	295
Gynaecology	190
Maxillofacial	94
Orthopaedic	480
General Surgery	335
Urology	203

<b>Category</b>	<b>Surgeries Cancelled</b>
Category 1	546
Category 2	652
Category 3	399