

# The Honourable Tim Nicholls MP Minister for Health and Ambulance Services

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29 May 2025

Hon Pat Weir MP Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Parliament House

Dear Mr Speaker Pat



I refer to comments made by Mr Steven Miles MP, Leader of the Opposition, in the Legislative Assembly on 20 May 2025. During the period allotted for the Matters of Public Interest, the Leader of the Opposition stated "Take, for example, the 2,200 hospital beds that were promised by 2028. Now we know that they will not be delivered at all." 1

I submit that in making this statement, the Leader of the Opposition deliberately misled the House and has therefore committed a contempt of Parliament, in breach of Standing Order 266(2).

As you are aware, there are three elements to be proven to establish that a Member has committed the contempt of deliberately misleading the House:

- 1. The statement must have been misleading;
- 2. The Member making the statement must have known, at the time the statement was made, that it was incorrect; and
- 3. In making the statement, the Member intended to mislead the House.

I submit that the Leader of the Opposition had evidence contrary to his allegations that the 2,200 hospital beds won't be delivered at all. Evidence to support this claim is outlined below.

#### The statement must have been misleading

The Leader of the Opposition stated that "Take, for example, the 2,200 hospital beds that were promised by 2028. Now we know that they will not be delivered at all."<sup>2</sup>

This statement is misleading as the Crisafulli Government has committed to not only delivering 2,200 new hospital beds, but more than 2,600 new hospital beds as part of the Hospital Rescue Plan published on 23 April 2025.

Evidence the beds are being delivered

Upon coming into government in October 2024, it was evident that the former government's Capacity Expansion Program was experiencing major budget blowouts and delays due to mismanagement. An independent review was commissioned to look into the program's governance, management, cost escalations and effectiveness to ensure the efficient use of public funds, and enhance Queensland's capacity to deliver high-quality health infrastructure on time and within budget.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Queensland, Matters of Public Interest, Legislative Assembly, 20 May 2025 (Steven Miles, Leader of the Opposition).

The outcome of the review presented a clear picture that the health infrastructure program was in crisis and instigated the Crisafulli Government to release the Hospital Rescue Plan.

The Hospital Rescue Plan, which is published online,<sup>3</sup> will deliver at least 2,603 new beds for Queenslanders, including:

- At least 600 new beds at the new Coomera Hospital
- At least 118 new beds at the new hospital in Toowoomba
- At least 139 new beds at the new Bundaberg Hospital
- At least 91 new beds and a new Queensland Cancer Centre
- At least 210 new beds at the Redcliffe Hospital
- At least 104 new beds at the Cairns Hospital, including a new surgical centre
- At least 165 new beds at the Townsville University Hospital
- At least 128 new beds at the Mackay Hospital
- At least 93 new beds at the Prince Charles Hospital
- 200 new beds at the Ipswich Hospital
- 112 new beds at the Logan Hospital
- 249 new beds at the Princess Alexandra Hospital
- 112 new beds at the QEII Hospital
- 35 new beds at the Hervey Bay hospital
- 90 new beds at the Ripley Satellite Health Centre Sub-Acute Expansion
- 70 new beds at the Gold Coast University Hospital Sub-Acute Expansion
- 30 new perinatal mental health beds across the state, including eight in Townsville
- 20 new beds at the Redland Hospital Mental Health Facility
- 12 new beds across two Youth Step Up Step Down facilities, with the first one in Rockhampton
- Nine new beds at the Rockhampton Mental Health Unit
- Eight new beds at the redeveloped Cooktown Multipurpose Health Centre
- Eight new acute adolescent mental health beds in Cairns.

Therefore, the 2,200 hospital beds will be delivered, including at least 403 more.

## The Member making the statement must have known, at the time the statement was made, that it was incorrect

The Leader of the Opposition must have known that the statement was incorrect as he was present in Parliament during Ministerial Statements on 29 April, where the Premier and Minister for Health and Ambulance Services both advised the House that the Hospital Rescue Plan would deliver more than 2.600 new beds for Queenslanders.<sup>4</sup>

Further evidence that the Leader of the Opposition must have known that the statement was incorrect is that he spoke publicly several times regarding the Hospital Rescue Plan, therefore it is reasonable to assume that he had read the plan including the specific commitment to deliver more than 2,600 beds. These statements include:

In parliament on 29 April 2025 following the release of the Hospital Rescue Plan, the Leader
of the Opposition moved a motion, including to insert "calls on the Crisafulli LNP government

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Queensland Government. The Hospital Rescue Plan. <u>https://www.plan.frealth.gld.gov.au/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Queensland, Ministerial Statements, Legislative Assembly, 29 April 2025 (Premier and Minister for Health and Ambulance Services).

- to provide Queenslanders clear timeframes and deliverable measures for their hospital and health infrastructure plan" clearly referencing the Hospital Rescue Plan.
- In parliament on 30 April 2025 following the release of the Hospital Rescue Plan, the Leader of the Opposition said "The LNP's claim that they have rescued the Health and Hospitals Plan is nothing more than an empty, slippery slogan and a fairy floss pamphlet" again, clearly referencing the Hospital Rescue Plan glossy.
- In a Facebook video reel on 13 May the Leader of the Opposition references the re-planning phase of the Hospital Rescue Plan, saying "they now say they'll tell us sometime late this year, early next year, when those projects, if they will be restarted, when they will be restarted, and when they will be done and that delay will end up costing more..." indicating he understands the content of the Hospital Rescue Plan and that construction of the projects that will deliver the more than 2,603 beds will continue after some projects undergo a replanning phase.

#### In making the statement, the Member intended to mislead the House

Upon review of the archived broadcast, it can be seen that the Leader of the Opposition is reading from a prewritten speech, which proves that he intended to assert a claim that he knew to be factually incorrect.

#### Conclusion

This evidence clearly outlines that the Leader of the Opposition has failed to uphold the standard expected of Members of Parliament, as he has deliberately misled the Parliament through his statement made on 20 May 2025.

I believe that an apology and a referral to the Ethics Committee is justified, due to the mismanagement of the capital program which has caused \$7 billion in budget blowouts and potentially more than three years in program delays, and the significance of the Hospital Rescue Plan in saving these projects and delivering the much-needed beds for Queenslanders.

Should you require any further information or any clarification of matters, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely.

Tim Nicholls MP

Minister for Health and Ambulance Services

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Member for Clayfield

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Queensland, Notices of Motion, Legislative Assembly, 29 April 2025 (Steven Miles, Leader of the Opposition).

Oueensland, Motion Debate, Legislative Assembly, 30 April 2025 (Steven Miles, Leader of the Opposition).
Facebook. Steven Miles. 13 May 2024. https://www.facebook.com/stevenmilesmp

I have been saying it for a while now, but what this federal election confirmed is that, for the LNP, cuts run to their core. It is what we have seen consistently: from Campbell Newman, with his then treasurer the member for Clayfield, to its now Treasurer, David Janetzki, tasked with manning the guillotine to enact their slash-and-burn agenda. The *Australian* revealed this month that the Under Treasurer had put hard words to directors-general to find cuts. He said—

... there is limited scope for new funding in the 2025-26 budget.

The letter suggested that the CBRC would consider opportunities for expenditure to be moderated, reprioritised or cut. The Premier and the LNP made over \$18 billion in unfunded promises. At the time they said they would deliver these and a balanced budget, yet the costings they released had very little detail. They said they would be funded through savings, which we know is code for cuts. That is because the LNP committed to rule out any new revenue measures or further borrowings. The math does not work; you can only cut. Now that they are in government, we see that those cuts are on the horizon. They are marching towards Queenslanders each and every day.

There are 35 days until this government's first budget—35 days until we see the truth in black and white, down to the bottom line. In 35 days we will see which vital services that Queenslanders rely on will get the chop. We will see how many programs and projects are delayed, deferred or rescoped. Let's not mince words here: a deferral, a delay or a change in scope is as clear as day a broken promise—a departure from what was promised. Take, for example, the 2,200 hospital beds that were promised by 2028. Now we know that they will not be delivered at all. Despite claims from those opposite that it is a scare tactic, construction at many hospitals is now at a standstill. I know that nothing gets cheaper the longer you take to build it, and this is just one example. This budget will be full of examples.

Most importantly, this budget should deliver the cost-of-living relief Queenslanders expect. When asked what the Premier would do on cost-of-living relief, he said—

We believe there needs to be those interim measures, and that looks like rebates and making sure that fares are affordable.

Since then the LNP has hiked rego by 24 per cent. For the average household, that could be almost \$160 extra. I recently spoke with some young Queenslanders about the impact this would have on them. Many did not even know it was happening, because there had been no media release, no press conference—nothing at all, just a Premier making decisions in darkness, without any accountability. There are more measures like that which could be next: \$200 FairPlay vouchers, for example, or—the big one—\$1,000 energy rebates. March CPI data showed a dramatic increase in electricity costs for Brisbane households. In fact, electricity more than doubled. When families are already doing it tough, will the LNP step in to make sure electricity is affordable? It is what families and households around the state need. It is what they are telling us they need.

In the few months that the Crisafulli LNP government has been in power, Queenslanders have realised they have been sold a pup. They were promised the world but all they have is lip-service. The upcoming budget will be a turning point—a line in the sand on the whingeing and whining and blame games—because the reality is that being in government can be hard. You do have to make tough decisions, but your goal should be to make Queensland a better place. This budget will be a true test of what the LNP chooses to prioritise. More clearly, it will be our first taste of what it does not. It will be Treasurer David Janetzki's job to sell that budget—to justify the cuts and the delays, to explain to families why they will pay more for rego and electricity. In 35 days we will see the true colours of this LNP government. The clock is ticking.

#### Arts Sector, Multiculturalism and Anti-Discrimination Laws

Hon. JH LANGBROEK (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Minister for Education and the Arts) (2.10 pm): We on this side have already discussed that the clock may be ticking, but not necessarily for what the Leader of the Opposition thinks it is ticking for. I say that as a former leader of the opposition who was criticised at times about the question time strategy, while the omnishambles that we saw this morning and that we have seen every sitting day really do not augur well for the prospects, especially when it comes to issues such as anti-discrimination laws. For example, I know that the laws that Labor brought in could grant a gun licence to someone charged but not yet convicted of a serious offence such as domestic violence—'Oh, don't worry about that'—or prevent authorities from suspending the licence of a security provider who has been charged but not yet convicted of a serious offence. Those opposite are just making it up as they go along and trying to grab someone who will go along with their agenda.

### The Hospital Rescue Plan

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## Hospital Rescue Plan

2,600 more beds and a credible plan to deliver them

The Hospital Rescue Plan will deliver more than 2,600 new beds alongside more investment in a bigger health workforce. This plan gives certainty to industry, health professionals, communities and, most importantly, Queenslanders.

We are embarking on the Hospital Rescue Plan to deliver modern, world-class facilities across the State and to tackle problems like the record-high levels of ambulance ramping and elective surgery waitlists.

This credible plan gives clinicians the tools and resources they need to do their job, while giving Queenslanders the health services they need by increasing capacity and expanding services at hospitals right across the State.

## The Prince Charles Hospital

Located in Brisbane's north, The Prince Charles Hospital is a major tertiary level cardiac hospital, employing around 3,200 staff and providing specialised care for more than 420,000 Queenslanders each year.

Our expansion project will deliver better services for the people of Brisbane, making sure they can receive healthcare faster and avoid potential complications while left on a waitlist without answers.

- At least 93 new overnight beds
- A new, fully developed plan that meets Hospital and Health Service and clinical needs
- Services including a new emergency department, paediatrics and operating theatres
- Staged execution to keep the project on track
- Better use of the site, leveraging nearby facilities and infrastructure
- A multi-storey car park delivered in 2025.



Artist impression of the Prince Charles Hospital Expansion

## The Queensland Cancer Centre

Cancer remains one of the leading causes of death and a leading cause of reduced quality of life for Queenslanders of all ages and backgrounds.

Half of all Queenslanders will develop cancer before the age of 85. With a growing and ageing population, cancer diagnoses are only expected to increase. Not all Queenslanders have access to the right cancer support when they need it.

The new Queensland Cancer Centre at the Herston Health Precinct will provide Queenslanders with access to contemporary and world-leading therapies. The centre of excellence will also enable greater 'home-grown' research and its translation into local health solutions. To manage growing cancer service demand, the Queensland Government will take the necessary steps to ensure quality cancer care is accessible to all Queenslanders, no matter where they live.

- At least 150 beds
- A new statewide cancer centre in Metro North
- A review of cancer services infrastructure needs for metro, rural and regional
   Queensland
- Better planning that meets clinical needs
- Partnerships with nearby health, research and education facilities.



Artist impression of the Queensland Cancer Centre

## **Redcliffe Hospital Expansion**

Redcliffe Hospital is located in the fast-growing Moreton Bay region, home to over half a million Queenslanders. Our hospital expansion project at Redcliffe is essential for the people of Moreton Bay to ensure they can access care easier, move off surgery waiting lists faster, and have a healthcare system they can rely on.

- At least 210 new overnight beds
- · Services including maternity, endoscopy, and operating theatres
- A new, fully developed plan that meets Hospital and Health Service and clinical needs
- A design that ensures the safety of nurses, doctors and healthcare workers
- Better use of the site to maximise service delivery
- More car parks.



Artist impression of the Redcliffe Hospital Expansion

## New Toowoomba Hospital

Toowoomba has a growing and ageing population, which is increasing pressure on our hospitals and health services each year.

As more people are choosing to call Toowoomba and the Darling Downs home, our new Toowoomba Hospital will ensure every Queenslander has access to care, closer to where they live. The new Toowoomba Hospital will be the main referral hospital for the Darling Downs region and will provide a much-needed boost to bed capacity alongside emergency and specialised care.

- At least 538 total overnight beds, including at least 118 new beds
- All services and existing beds relocated to the new hospital
- Services including a cardiac lab, more dialysis and a larger emergency department
- Staged execution to keep project on track
- Better planning to meet clinical needs
- A plan to implement electronic medical records
- Better use of existing heritage listed buildings at the Baillie Henderson site
- A multi-storey car park.



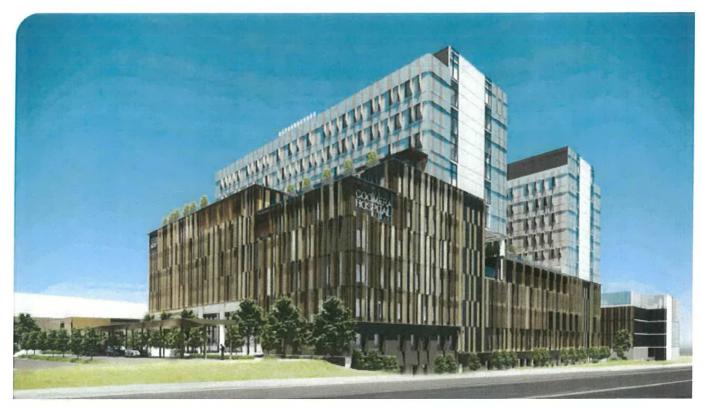
Artist impression of the New Toowoomba Hospital

### **New Coomera Hospital**

The Gold Coast is one of the most rapidly growing regions in Queensland, and more beds at the new Coomera Hospital will provide care closer to home while taking pressure off the already busy local health system.

Experts from the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service identified the greatest priority for the region to be increasing capacity and bolstering services at the Coomera site, rather than fragmenting services across different facilities, as was the case under the previous plan. It's why the Queensland Government will deliver an uplift of 50% to deliver 600 more beds at the new Coomera Hospital.

- At least 600 new overnight beds
- Services including day surgery, maternity, operating theatres and an ICU
- Works on site to progress while planning continues
- A revised masterplan to better connect to public transport
- A multi-storey car park.



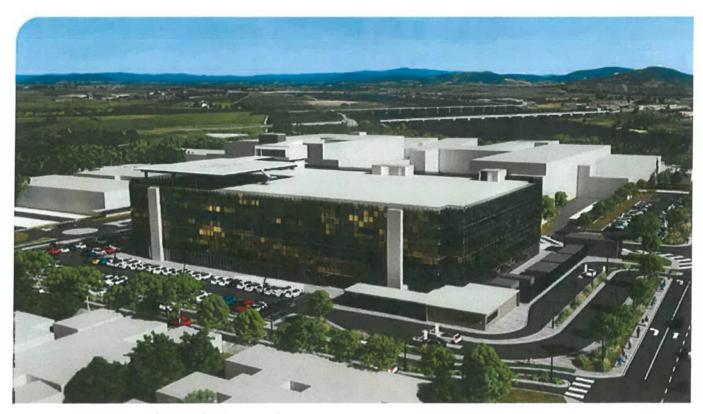
Artist impression of the New Coomera Hospital

## **Mackay Hospital Expansion**

Mackay Base Hospital is the major hospital across the Greater Mackay Whitsunday region.

These communities are growing and deserve care closer to home, so we're delivering a major expansion to the hospital. More beds and services at Mackay Base Hospital will make sure locals have access to safe, high-quality care.

- At least 128 new overnight beds
- · Services including surgical, maternity, neonatal and paediatric
- A new, fully developed plan that meets Hospital and Health Service and clinical needs
- A multi-storey car park
- A new helipad.



Artist impression of the Mackay Hospital Expansion

## Townsville University Hospital Expansion

Townsville University Hospital is the only tertiary referral centre in North Queensland, treating patients from as far north as Cape York Peninsula and the Torres Strait Islands and west to Mount Isa and the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Each year, it treats hundreds of thousands of Queenslanders in acute, outpatient, community, and aged care settings with focus on quality, safety, and compassion. Our expansion project at Townsville will deliver more services for locals closer to home, making sure they get the care they deserve, when they need it.

- At least 165 new overnight beds
- Services including day surgery, operating theatres and a rehab therapy unit
- A new, fully developed plan that meets Hospital and Health Service and clinical needs
- A staged approach to keep the project on track
- A fast-tracked multi-storey car park with opportunities for local builders.



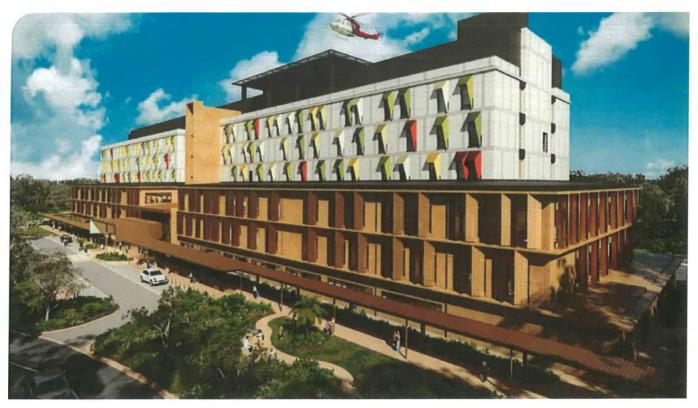
Artist impression of the Townsville University Hospital Expansion

## **New Bundaberg Hospital**

Bundaberg Hospital is one of the busiest hospitals in Wide Bay.

With a growing and ageing population, the new Bundaberg Hospital is an essential project to make sure Queenslanders living in our regions have easier access to specialised health services. Increasing bed capacity and improving access to healthcare in Bundaberg will ensure community needs continue to be met, now and in the future.

- More than 410 total beds and bed alternatives
- At least 139 new overnight beds
- Level 5 services including emergency and maternity
- A new design that transfers all services and beds to the new site
- Better planning and consultation to meet clinical needs
- Mitigation of flooding risk by moving to new site
- A multi-storey car park.



Artist impression of the New Bundaberg Hospital

### **Cairns Hospital Expansion**

Cairns Hospital is the only major referral hospital in Far North Queensland. The people of Cairns deserve a world-class health system and services closer to home.

The hospital expansion will deliver the much-needed bed capacity and surgical services at Cairns Hospital, making it easier for Queenslanders to get the care they need.

- 64 new overnight beds by 2027
- At least 40 new overnight beds at the surgical centre
- Services including orthopaedics, ophthalmology, and plastic and reconstructive surgery
- Collaboration with local tertiary education providers for a future health and innovation precinct
- Funding to find a new and safe location for the Cairns Hospital helipad

• A multi-storey car park.



Artist impression of the Cairns Hospital Expansion

## Hervey Bay Hospital Expansion

Hervey Bay Hospital is a major hospital in the Wide Bay region, providing services such as surgical, maternity and mental health close to home.

We're expanding the Hervey Bay Hospital so Queenslanders can access healthcare faster and spend less time on waiting lists.

- An expansion by 2026
- 35 overnight beds
- Services including an inpatient unit and ICU
- An at-grade car park.



Artist impression of the Hervey Bay Hospital Expansion

## Logan Hospital Expansion

Logan is a fast-growing city, so it is critical that bed capacity and health services can keep up with the community's needs.

The Logan Hospital expansion project is one of the largest in Queensland, delivering much needed upgrades and enhancements to buildings and services to make it easier for the people of Logan to access healthcare faster, and closer to home.

- An expansion by 2027
- 112 new overnight beds
- Services including endoscopy, operating theatres and cardiac lab
- Solutions to address residual risks
- A multi-storey car park.



Artist impression of the Logan Hospital Expansion

## **Ipswich Hospital Expansion**

West Moreton is a fast-growing region, and it's vital that health services continue to expand so that the community has a local health system they can rely on.

Ipswich Hospital is the largest hospital in West Moreton and provides specialised services for the people of Ipswich and beyond. Work is well underway to expand the Ipswich Hospital making it easier for the growing West Moreton community to get the healthcare they need, closer to home.

- An expansion by 2028
- 200 new overnight beds
- Services including a new emergency department, operating theatres and an expanded coronary care unit
- A multi-storey car park.



Artist impression of the Ipswich Hospital Expansion

## **QEII Hospital Expansion**

The Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Hospital cares for adults across medical, surgery and intensive care in Brisbane's south.

This much needed expansion project is critical for ensuring the hospital can continue to meet the healthcare needs of the growing region. The upgrades will modernise the hospital and provide easier access to health services for Queenslanders.

- An expansion by 2028
- 112 new overnight beds
- An expanded ICU, medical day unit and more operating theatres
- Solutions and funding to address the energy supply risk.



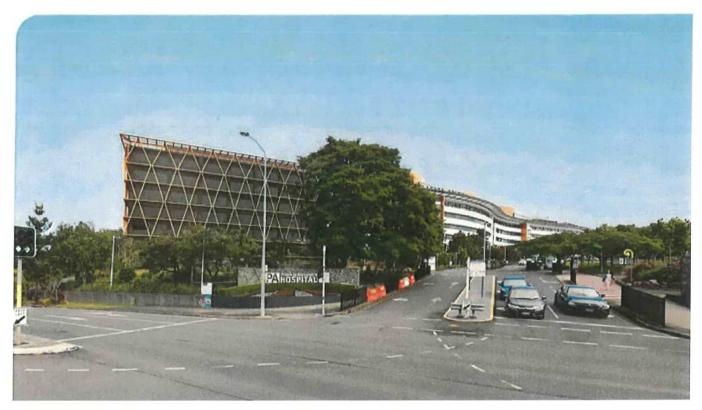
Artist impression of the QEII Hospital Expansion

## Princess Alexandra Hospital Expansion

The Princess Alexandra Hospital is one of Queensland's major metro hospitals, providing specialised services to residents from across the State.

As one of the busiest hospitals in Brisbane, the essential upgrade and expansion of the Princess Alexandra Hospital will make it easier for the community to access health services, and provide critical capacity to meet ongoing needs.

- An expansion by 2028
- 249 new overnight beds
- Services including cancer care as well as medical and surgical beds
- More car parking.



Artist impression of the Princess Alexandra Hospital Expansion

## Rockhampton

Rockhampton is the heart of Central Queensland and the Rockhampton Hospital is in crisis. Its emergency department is overrun with rising demand, outdated infrastructure, limited primary care access, and a significant backlog of patients awaiting aged-care or disability accommodations.

The Queensland Government is committed to investing in the regions because we believe every Queenslander should have access to a health system they can rely on, no matter where they live. That's why we are delivering new, expanded and upgraded infrastructure for Rockhampton to ensure the provision of safe, high-quality healthcare, closer to home.

### **Rockhampton Hospital**

Masterplanning is underway for the redevelopment of the Rockhampton Hospital.
 We will do the full and proper work to secure the future of this essential health service.

- Work is progressing for a new Cardiac Hybrid Theatre at Rockhampton Hospital to provide more services closer to home and attract a sustainable cardiac health practice to the region.
- Delivering expanded hospital support facilities at the vacated Central Queensland
   University City Campus site on Canning Street, Rockhampton.

### Mental Health

- More beds for Rockhampton through a nine-bed expansion of the adult mental health unit.
- A new six bed youth Step Up Step Down facility will provide 24/7 care to young people experiencing, or at increased risk of experiencing, acute mental illness episodes, to either step down from hospital treatment or step up into the service.

### **Future workforce**

Our next generation of healthcare workers will benefit from a new \$95 million
 Queensland Academy of Health Sciences in Rockhampton to fast-track high school
 students into health careers. The academy in Rockhampton will be delivered in
 partnership with the Federal Government and is the first of its kind outside of South
 East Queensland.



Artist impression of the new Rockhampton Mental Health facility

Last updated: April 2025

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### The Hospital Rescue Plan

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# Easier access to health services across Queensland - other upgrades

From Coolangatta to the Cape, and Brisbane to Bedourie and beyond, we're investing in better healthcare closer to home, delivering more beds and staff accommodation, upgraded facilities and enhanced services for Queenslanders.

We're investing in better healthcare closer to home, delivering more beds and staff accommodation, upgraded facilities and enhanced services for Queenslanders.

## New and upgraded facilities

- Ripley Satellite Health Centre Sub-Acute Expansion Project (90 new beds)
- Ripley Satellite Health Centre car park
- Gold Coast University Hospital Sub-Acute Expansion Project (70 new beds)
- Cooktown Multi-Purpose Health Service facility (8 new beds)
- Maryborough Hospital Essential Services Upgrade
- Cow Bay Health Centre Replacement
- Millmerran Multipurpose Health Centre Replacement

- Normanton Hospital Replacement
- Pormpuraaw Primary Healthcare Centre Replacement
- Moura Multipurpose Health Service Aged Care Expansion
- Biloela Hospital Theatre Refurbishment
- Charleville Sterilising and Operating Theatre Refurbishment
- Yarrabah Hospital Parking Upgrade and Relocated Helipad
- Bamaga Primary Healthcare Centre Replacement
- Doomadgee Hospital Replacement
- Laura Primary Healthcare Centre Replacement
- Boigu Primary Healthcare Centre Replacement
- Badu Island Primary Healthcare Centre Replacement
- Lockhart River Primary Healthcare Centre Replacement
- Horn Island Primary Healthcare Centre Replacement
- Hughenden Multipurpose Health Centre Replacement
- Richmond Multipurpose Health Centre Replacement
- Home Hill Health Service Replacement
- Chinchilla Hospital Replacement
- Biloela Hospital Partial Replacement
- Laidley Hospital Partial Replacement
- Boonah Hospital Partial Replacement
- Murgon Hospital Partial Replacement
- Childers Multipurpose Health Centre Partial Replacement
- Proserpine Hospital Upgrade
- Jandowae Multipurpose Health Centre Upgrade

## Staff accommodation

- Longreach Staff Accommodation Replacement
- Collinsville Staff Accommodation Replacement

- Biloela Staff Accommodation Replacement
- Torres and Cape Staff Accommodation Replacement
- Dajarra Staff Accommodation
- Camooweal Staff Accommodation
- Winton Staff Accommodation
- Mt Isa Staff Accommodation
- St George Staff Accommodation
- Charleville Staff Accommodation
- Charters Towers Staff Accommodation
- Tara Staff Accommodation

## Masterplanning for future needs

- · Chinchilla Hospital redevelopment planning
- · Rockhampton Hospital redevelopment masterplanning
- Gympie Hospital redevelopment masterplanning
- Gladstone Hospital redevelopment masterplanning

## New and upgraded medical equipment

- Charleville CT scanner
- Ingham CT scanner
- Ayr CT scanner

## New and upgraded ambulance stations

- Beenleigh Central Ambulance Station
- Southport East Ambulance Station
- Pimpama Ambulance Station Replacement
- Glenwood Ambulance Station Business Case

## New and expanded mental health facilities

- Redland Hospital Expansion Stage 2 (20 new beds)
- Cairns Adolescent Acute Mental Health Project (8 new beds)
- Perinatal Mental Health Beds (30 new beds across the state)
- Rockhampton Adult Mental Health Unit Expansion (9 new beds)
- Two Youth Step Up Step Down Facilities, with the first one in Rockhampton (6 beds per facility)
- Sunshine Coast Short-Term Accommodation for Mental Health Treatment and Support

### Reinstated health services

- · Cooktown reinstatement of birthing services
- Biloela reinstatement of birthing services

### Real-time health data

In a first for Queensland, real-time data is available on critical hospital performance and wait times across the State's 25 major emergency departments and seven satellite health centres. Data on critical information, such as median patient wait times and the number of patients who have been triaged and awaiting treatment to start, is updated every 15 to 30 minutes.

Ensuring increased transparency across the health system is a priority for the new Queensland Government. To see for yourself, visit openhospitals.health.qld.gov.au. (https://openhospitals.health.qld.gov.au)

"This is such an achievement in pulling meaningful data from a number of systems to ensure transparency for the public. Queensland Community Safety Act 2024:

- 361 Proclamation commencing certain provisions, No. 21
- 362 Proclamation commencing certain provisions, No. 21, explanatory notes
- 363 Proclamation commencing certain provisions, No. 21, human rights certificate

Agriculture and Fisheries and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2024:

- 364 Agriculture and Fisheries and Other Legislation Amendment (Postponement) Regulation 2025, No. 22
- 365 Agriculture and Fisheries and Other Legislation Amendment (Postponement) Regulation 2025, No. 22, explanatory notes
- 366 Agriculture and Fisheries and Other Legislation Amendment (Postponement) Regulation 2025, No. 22, human rights certificate

Queensland Productivity Commission Act 2025:

- 367 Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 23
- 368 Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 23, explanatory notes

#### Duties Act 2001:

- 369 Duties Amendment Regulation 2025, No. 24
- 370 Duties Amendment Regulation 2025, No. 24, explanatory notes
- 371 Duties Amendment Regulation 2025, No. 24, human rights certificate

Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011, Hospital Foundations Act 2018, Mental Health Act 2016, Public Health Act 2005, State Penalties Enforcement Act 1999:

- 372 Health and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2025, No. 25
- 373 Health and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2025, No. 25, explanatory notes
- 374 Health and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2025, No. 25, human rights certificate
- 375 Health and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2025, No. 25, impact analysis statement

#### Legal Profession Act 2007:

- 376 Legal Profession (Society Rules) Amendment Notice (No. 2) 2025, No. 26
- 377 Legal Profession (Society Rules) Amendment Notice (No. 2) 2025, No. 26, explanatory notes
- 378 Legal Profession (Society Rules) Amendment Notice (No. 2) 2025, No. 26, human rights certificate

#### REPORT BY THE CLERK

The following report was tabled by the Clerk-

Report pursuant to Standing Order 169 (Acts to be numbered by the Clerk) and Standing Order 165 (Clerical errors or formal changes to any bill) detailing amendments to certain Bills, made by the Clerk, prior to assent by Her Excellency the Governor, viz—

#### Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Amendments made to Bill

Short title and consequential references to short title-

Omit-

'Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024'

Insert-

'Health Practitioner Regulation National Law and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025'

#### MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

#### **Health System**

Hon. DF CRISAFULLI (Broadwater—LNP) (Premier and Minister for Veterans) (9.38 am): Over the last decade, our health system descended into crisis. Under Labor's watch, ambulance ramping hit record highs and surgery waitlists spiralled. Critical projects were plagued by poor planning, delays and cost blowouts. As a result, too many families waited too long to receive the health services they deserve and too many of our hardworking staff were under pressure day after day. These healthcare workers have been stretched beyond their limits.

Our population is growing and aging and our health system must keep up. We have a plan to save our hospitals and healthcare workers from the chaos and crisis of the last 10 years. The Hospital Rescue Plan is our plan for the future of our health system. Our government will build new hospitals and upgrade and expand existing ones to deliver 2,600 extra hospital beds alongside more investment in a bigger health workforce. The Hospital Rescue Plan will be the largest investment in hospital infrastructure ever seen in Queensland's history.

Experts called Labor's hospital capacity expansion program undeliverable. That is why we commissioned an independent review into the program and the backlog of delayed maintenance. That review found major issues, including a lack of adequate planning, delays, underfunded projects and design flaws, which resulted in cost increases of around \$7 billion. Our government has listened to the independent review and will deliver easier access to health services, as we promised.

The Hospital Rescue Plan will include three new hospitals, a new Queensland cancer centre, 10 major hospital expansions and upgraded and expanded health facilities right across the state. We will get our health infrastructure projects back on track with a credible plan to deliver them. We have listened to our critical frontline clinicians and empowered local decision-making to develop an investment plan. At hospitals like Redcliffe, our plan will deliver more beds and a complete redesign. In Coomera, our government has committed to delivering at least 600 new overnight beds. In Bundaberg and Toowoomba, we listened to clinicians and we will save around \$600 million per year by relocating all services and existing beds to the new hospitals. More beds and expanded services in Brisbane, Townsville, Mackay, Hervey Bay, Ipswich, Logan and Cairns will ensure Queenslanders have easier access to the health care they need.

In rural and regional parts of the state we will expand clinical services like dialysis and CT scanning. Our plan will also ensure there will be better staff accommodation, which is absolutely vital to attract and retain critical health workers. We are also investing in the largest expansion of Queensland's health workforce with 46,000 additional health workers by 2032. We are delivering a homegrown health workforce strategy to train and hire the clinicians needed for the next decade. It will make it easier for students to study, train and work in Queensland, especially in rural and regional areas.

We are only just getting started on fixing the issues in our healthcare system. We will deliver infrastructure right across the state and give our healthcare workers the resources they need. Queenslanders deserve to have a health system they can rely on and that is why we are delivering the Hospital Rescue Plan.

#### **Health System**

Hon. TJ NICHOLLS (Clayfield—LNP) (Minister for Health and Ambulance Services) (9.42 am): A cornerstone of the LNP government's vision for Queensland is to ensure that every Queenslander has timely access to high-quality health care, no matter where they live in this great state. That is why this Hospital Rescue Plan is necessary to save the health system. It will save the system from the decade of mismanagement, chaos and crisis under Labor. What did that chaos and crisis look like? We had four failed health ministers in 10 years, record ambulance ramping, a record number of Queenslanders waiting for elective surgery and long waitlists for Queenslanders to see specialists. That was Labor's record after 10 years of failure.

Our plan will deliver. It will deliver new and expanded hospitals as well as the extra beds our communities need. It will ensure we are providing modern, world-class facilities across the state. We will build three brand new hospitals in Coomera, Toowoomba and Bundaberg. Each of those hospitals will have more beds than Labor planned for and each of those hospitals will meet the needs recommended by experts, clinicians and the hospital and health services—recommendations ignored by Labor. On top of this, there will be major expansions at 10 existing hospitals, and I know members on this side will be delighted to know that that will be occurring at Redcliffe, at Mackay, in Townsville and here in Brisbane as well with a new Queensland cancer centre.

We uncovered the disastrous state of the former government's failed capacity expansion program upon coming into government, which has had major blowouts and delays across the board. That is why I commissioned an independent review into the program. That review revealed the program was on life support. Sam Sangster's report laid out the cold, hard reality of the consequences of the panicked and too-late recognition by the Palaszczuk and Miles government of their failure to properly invest in, and plan for, hospital and health infrastructure. That report revealed that in one year alone the total capital spend by Labor was just \$117 million. That is all they were prepared to invest in one year alone in health infrastructure. Mr Sangster said that the \$9.78 billion capacity expansion program announced in 2022 followed 'limited ... new or expansion capital allocated to Health over prior years'. When he said 'limited', he meant 'almost nothing'. He went on to say—

In each case continuing with the currently scoped and programmed projects is an exercise in fullity.

An exercise in futility. Labor's planning only ever extended to planning to get a headline. It did not worry about deliverability. It was headlines over deadlines, not about delivering health care. It is no wonder industry expert Adrian Dwyer said only last week that Labor's plan was 'little more than a mirage

of media releases'. That is why we are doing the proper planning and taking the time necessary to deliver more than 2,600 beds for Queenslanders. That will mean Queenslanders will have greater access to health services when they need them.

Our Hospital Rescue Plan represents a record investment by the LNP in the state's hospital infrastructure and it provides a credible plan to achieve it. It reflects our government's unwavering dedication to the health and wellbeing of every Queenslander, no matter where they live. These investments are not just about bricks and mortar; they are about delivering health security for communities across the state. The rescue plan is carefully structured, financially sound and informed by the voices of clinicians, healthcare professionals and community members across Queensland. It is also aligned, as the Premier has said, with our broader strategy to expand and support our health workforce.

This is an integral investment for the future health of Queenslanders. It will ensure our communities can depend on their healthcare system. Only an LNP government can be trusted to deliver the health services that Queenslanders need.

#### **Best Practice Industry Conditions**

Hon. JP BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations) (9.47 am): Members will recall when this House sat last year that the new LNP state government pressed pause on the CFMEU tax—BPIC—on all new major infrastructure projects in Queensland. We know that Labor's sweetheart deal with the CFMEU meant that Queenslanders would have been expected to pay billions of dollars more for their essential infrastructure while having to accept record low productivity on their worksites. In some cases, under Labor, productivity fell as low as 2.8 productive days per week at major building sites across Queensland. That was Labor's record. Labor did a deal with their union mates and Queenslanders were the ones paying the price.

Queenslanders remember that Labor wanted them to pay more for their roads, more for their rail, more for housing and more rent, and now the extent of how much extra Labor wanted Queenslanders to pay for their hospitals is being uncovered by this government. BPIC—aka the CFMEU-Labor tax—would have had a \$1.4 billion impact alone on the delivery of the Olympic and the Paralympic Games. Queenslanders know Labor's record on cost blowouts and service delivery. Labor's CFMEU tax strikes again.

#### Mrs Frecklington: Oh, no!

Mr BLEIJIE: I know—believe it or not! As if the new government needed any more reasons to end Labor's sweetheart deal with the CFMEU, it was revealed last week by the independent Sangster review that under Labor's industrial policy—

Evidence provided to the Review illustrates that the major impact arising from BPICs is on-site productivity being around 20% lower than in other Australian jurisdictions.

Productivity is 20 per cent lower in Queensland than in other Australian jurisdictions! The review goes on to say that on working days New South Wales is 18 per cent more productive than Queensland; Western Australia is 17 per cent more productive than Queensland; and—are members ready for this?—even Victoria—

#### Government members interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: I could be accused of misleading the House but the review says it. Even Victoria, where the Labor Premier, Jacinta Allan, was forced to refer the construction industry union to the Victorian police and to the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission, is still 16 per cent more productive than Queensland—Victoria!

What Labor wanted Queenslanders to accept was that productivity on their hospital worksites would be a fifth worse than that experienced by fellow Australians—a statistic the Crisafulli LNP government is not going to accept. That was Labor's record. That was their record that they so strongly supported and were proud of. Labor prioritised a sweetheart deal for their CFMEU mates over building new hospitals and providing more health services supporting our nurses, doctors, paramedics and health staff across the state.

Under Labor the industrial relations landscape in this state became unfit for purpose and meant that the plan they had for health infrastructure was undeliverable. This LNP government will do what Labor could not: we will heal the health crisis to ensure that Queenslanders get the health system they deserve. The biggest question of the day is: who in the Labor Party is to blame for their failed hospital and health plan? It will be revealed a little later today.

Mr NICHOLLS: It was on the news. It was everywhere.

A government member interjected.

Mr NICHOLLS: A very good point! I take that interjection. What did they do? They sent out the poor old member for Miller—the one that no-one actually wanted on the front bench in 2024, if you remember. They sent him out. What did the member for Miller claim? He said the projects were planned as well as they possibly could have been at the time. He left two words out—'by Labor'. That was it. Their plan only ever extended to getting headlines because it was rushed, panicked and a failure. On top of that, we also had the Auditor-General's report into the Sustaining Capital Program.

I will go through the questions that Queenslanders want to know the answers to, that the members and employees of Queensland Health want to know the answers to and that Labor is not standing up and answering. When was the former health minister aware none of the projects were on track? She got up today and asked the Treasurer a question about what he knew. If it is sauce for the goose it is sauce for the gander. Here is another question: when did then minister Fentiman know these projects were out of funds? Did she know it in July 2024 when she wrote to the then treasurer and the then premier seeking to move funds from the capacity expansion program to Sustaining Capital? When did they know about it? Did they know about it when they got the letter from the then health minister asking to move the funding around and telling them that there was insufficient funding to complete the capacity expansion program? Did they know in July last year that the program was going to cost \$17 billion, not the \$9.7 billion they had originally planned? Did they know that the project blowout times had extended?

Did they know that Toowoomba was going to be delayed two years? Did they know that Mackay was going to be delayed a year? Did they know that Redcliffe was going to be delayed three years, if memory serves me correctly? Did they know that Cairns would not be able to deliver the so-called surgical centre? Did they know that they had not even secured a site for the car park in Cairns? What did they know? When did they know it? Most importantly, why are they refusing to stand up, shoulder to shoulder, and front the people of Queensland with the documents in their hands and simply say, 'We were misled.' That is all they have to do. 'We weren't told about it. We didn't know about it. Here are all the documents. We'll release the cabinet documents, the HIQ documents and the briefing notes that show what happened.'

(Time expired)

10 Una CLMU

Hon. SJ MILES (Murrumba—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (11,25 am): I move—

That all words after 'House' be omitted and the following inserted:

- acknowledges that Queensland is a growing state and Queenslanders deserve the health infrastructure and services that they need.
- 2. acknowledges that the former Labor government relied on the best available advice from the Queensland public sector regarding the hospital and health infrastructure plan.
- notes that the current Queensland Health Director-General, then chief operating officer of Queensland Health, Dr David Rosengren, oversaw the former Labor government's health capital expansion program.
- calls on the Crisafulli LNP government to provide Queenslanders clear timeframes and deliverable measures for their hospital and health infrastructure plan.

In just six short months there have been a lot of broken promises from those opposite, including, of course, that big promise that they would govern with integrity. This morning, we have seen on how many fronts they have broken their promise to govern with integrity. Last week, though, we had the biggest broken promise so far when the Minister for Health tore up the hospital expansion plan and said that the LNP would not meet the promise the Premier made of delivering 2,200 hospital beds by 2028 for Queenslanders.

The day the health minister commissioned that review we knew that they never intended to meet that promise. They always intended to break that promise to Queenslanders. They went to a consulting firm and said, 'Give us a report that gives us excuses to not build these hospitals.' They never wanted to build them. They were never honest with Queenslanders about them, and they are using the cover of this supposedly independent report to not build them to the timeframes that Queensland needs.

The Queensland population is growing and needs these new hospitals. Our healthcare workforce is growing and we need bigger hospitals to deliver services in. We need them in growing communities like the northern Gold Coast, Toowoomba, Bundaberg, Cairns, Townsville and Mackay. In my own community of Moreton Bay, workers have already downed tools at the really important Redcliffe Hospital expansion. The government tore up that plan that had been years in the making. There were

- 5. notes Premier Crisafulli promised to not cut health services and condemns Premier Crisafulli for breaking that promise.
- notes the member for Clayfield claimed the LNP had never promised 2,200 hospital beds by 2032 and condemns the member for Clayfield for not knowing the LNP election commitments.
- 7. condemns Premier Crisafulli for not having any timelines or costings in the LNP government's health plan.
- 8. notes Premier Crisafulli promised to appoint the member for Mudgeeraba as the health minister and, on behalf of the people of Queensland, the House thanks the Premier for breaking that promise.
- notes the federal Liberal National Party opposition led by Peter Dutton is a major risk to health services in Queensland and Medicare which will make it harder for Queenslanders to seek the health care they vitally need.
- notes that cutting, delaying, reducing services and breaking promises is the Liberal National Party way, both federally
  under Peter Dutlon and in Queensland under Premier Crisafulli.

Queensland is growing rapidly. People have moved here in droves to enjoy our great lifestyle. Who can blame them? With that comes immense pressure on our services, especially health care. Our GPs are booked and busy and our emergency departments are busier than ever. The latest data shows almost 600,000 people presented to an emergency department between October and December. That is 2.3 per cent more than the same period the previous year, which is exactly why we need more hospital beds, better services and more access to health care closer to home. There was a plan in place, a big plan, to deliver just that. It was a plan that was the result of over 30 business cases and years of planning. This month it was torn up by the Crisafulli LNP government.

Queenslanders voted under the promise of 2,200 new hospital beds by 2028. That is the promise the Premier made. It was part of a pipeline of 3,300 new hospital beds by 2032—again a promise this Premier made. Three new hospitals, 11 hospital expansions and a brand new cancer care centre delivered on time and on budget—you guessed it, a promise this Premier made.

It was all part of what we were told was 'the most detailed health plan ever taken to an election', he said, a seismic shift, except the only seismic shift we have seen from this Premier and this health minister is a shift away from actually building more hospitals. This is a seismic broken promise.

First it was the Townsville University Hospital. That was a project to deliver a new clinical services building and an extra 143 beds by 2026. The contract for that expansion, which was already underway, was torn up and sent back to tender. We were told this was guaranteed to save money. Now it is back to the drawing board, no thanks to the advocacy, or lack thereof, of the three new Townsville LNP members.

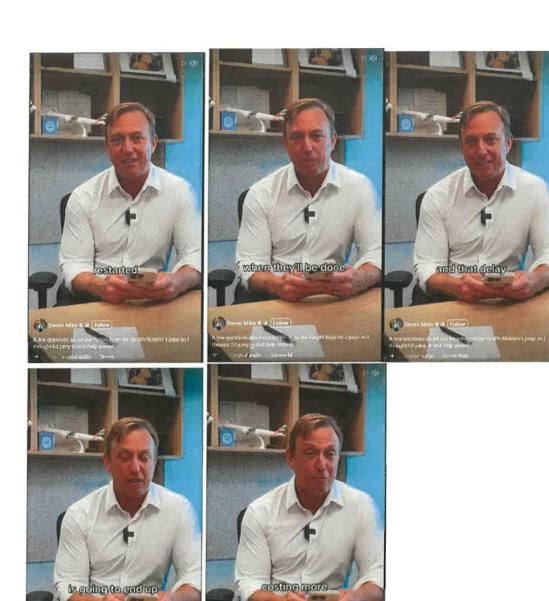
Then it was leaked to the media that the Queensland Cancer Centre had been pushed off into the never-never. The brand new state-of-the-art facility and its 150 beds were confirmed to be delayed until at least 2031. It did not stop there. Next, work stopped at my local hospital in Redcliffe. The site was shut down, construction equipment packed up and workers made redundant by contractors. Some 204 four beds were due to be delivered at Redcliffe Hospital by 2028. Now we do not know when they will be delivered.

That is the same story we are getting at hospitals right across the state. The new Toowoomba Hospital—who knows? The new Coomera Hospital—we don't know. The new Bundaberg Hospital—nobody knows. The Mackay Hospital expansion—nobody knows. The Prince Charles Hospital expansion—we don't know. The Cairns Surgical Centre—we don't know. The Robina Hospital expansion—we do know about that one; it has been scrapped entirely.

The LNP's claim that they have rescued the Health and Hospitals Plan is nothing more than an empty, slippery slogan and a fairy floss pamphlet. There are no timelines, no costings and no guarantees. All we have seen so far is dodgy, slippery, used-car salesman tactics to duck and weave around the truth, to slip out of giving Queenslanders a straight answer. It is not hard. When will these hospitals be built? When will we get the 2,200 new beds? Will it be by 2028, like the Premier promised Queenslanders? Anything less is a giant broken promise.

The LNP's cuts to health do not come as a surprise to me. I thought it was always a bit suspicious that the Premier put the former treasurer, the member for Clayfield, into that portfolio. As treasurer, he oversaw 14,000 job cuts, including doctors, nurses and midwives. At the time he blamed the Commission of Audit. They got Peter Costello to do the Commission of Audit. The Sangster review is nothing more than Commission of Audit 2.0—a plan to get out of their promises, to cut back on our hospitals, to deny our healthcare workers and Queensland communities the hospitals they deserve; a cover to break all of their promises.







Your Ref: Our Ref: 250602-OUT-LOTO

2 June 2025

Hon Steven Miles MP Leader of the Opposition L9, 63 George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

By E-mail: TheLeader@opposition.qld.gov.au

#### Dear Leader

The Office of the Speaker received correspondence on 29 May 2025 from the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services. The said matter concerns whether you have deliberately misled the House. A copy of this correspondence is attached.

Deliberately misleading the House is listed as an example of behaviour that the House may treat as a contempt (see *Standing Order 266 (2)*).

Standing Order 269 (5) provides that in considering whether such a matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee, the Speaker may request further information from the person the subject of the allegation. Accordingly, I am writing to you pursuant to that Standing Order.

Standing Order 269 (4) provides that in considering whether the matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee, the Speaker shall take account of the degree of importance of the matter which has been raised and whether an adequate apology or explanation has been made in respect of the matter.

I wish to stress that I have not yet formed a view as to whether this particular allegation should be referred to the Ethics Committee. However, as a matter of course, I remind all members who are the subject of such allegations of the long-established convention that should a Member become aware they have inadvertently misled the House, they should, at the earliest opportunity, correct the record and apologise for their inadvertence.

Parliament House George St Brisbane Queens land 4000 Australia Should you wish to provide me with further information to assist me in making a determination as to whether the matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee under *Standing Order 269* please provide your response by COB 16 June 2025.

In the meantime, should your office have any queries relating to this matter, they may be directed to my Executive Officer, Coral-Leah Kemp, by email to Speaker@parliament.qld.gov.au or on 07 3553 6700.

Yours sincerely

HON PAT WEIR MP

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Par notes

Enc.



PO Box 15057 City East Queensland 4002 Australia Telephone 3004 2300 Email theleader@opposition.qld.gov.au

16 June 2025

The Honourable Pat Weir MP Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Queensland Parliament BRISBANE QLD 4000

VIA EMAIL: speaker@parliament.qld.gov.au

#### Dear Speaker

I acknowledge your correspondence dated 2 June 2025 regarding an allegation raised by the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services (Member for Clayfield) submitted to your office on 29 May 2025.

The Member for Clayfield has taken issue with a statement I made during Matters of Public Interest on 20 May 2025, in particular the following: "Take, for example, the 2,200 hospital beds that were promised by 2028. Now we know that they will not be delivered at all".

I state at the outset I did not deliberately mislead the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament and will deal with each limb in turn below.

#### THE STATEMENT MUST HAVE BEEN MISLEADING

The statement in question which I made during Matters of Public Interest, should be read in the context of my broader contribution. For ease of reference, I extract the relevant section below:

There are 35 days until this government's first budget—35 days until we see the truth in black and white, down to the bottom line. In 35 days we will see which vital services that Queenslanders rely on will get the chop.

We will see how many programs and projects are delayed, deferred or rescoped. Let's not mince words here: a deferral, a delay or a change in scope is as clear as day a broken promise—a departure from what was promised. Take, for example, the 2,200 hospital beds that were promised by 2028. Now we know that they will not be delivered at all.

Despite claims from those opposite that it is a scare tactic, construction at many hospitals is now at a standstill. I know that nothing gets cheaper the longer you take to build it, and this is just one example. This budget will be full of examples.

I submit that my contribution was in relation to the upcoming budget and what projects and programs that will be deferred, delayed or rescoped. This is because I stated, "Let's not mince words here: a deferral, a delay or a change in scope is as clear as day a broken promise – a departure from what was promised".

The Hospital Rescue Plan (the Plan) which the Member for Clayfield refers to has no timeframes in respect of when the hospital beds will be physically delivered. Given this, in conjunction with reporting by Nine News Queensland that some of the projects outlined in the Plan will not be delivered until 2031 (Attachment 1), it is the understanding of the Queensland Opposition and the broader community that the original promise of 2,200 new hospital beds will not be met. That was what I was referring to when I said, "Now we know that they will not be delivered at all", by that timeframe promised of 2028.

I also submit that the additional comments of "... construction at many hospitals is now at a standstill", should be read in tandem with the statement in question. This is because the beds that were promised by 2028 will not be delivered at all, in that timeframe, because construction at many of the hospitals has now ceased.

The Member for Clayfield has provided some examples of hospital builds, however a number of them are not currently under construction, in line with the recommendation from the Sangster Review. This review formed the basis of the Plan, and recommended, for example:

- That early works on the Bundaberg project be paused on site, replan and redesigning Bundaberg Hospital accepted.
- The Coomera project should be paused accepted.
- Queensland Cancer Centre project should be reconsidered, and a new business case developed accepted.
- Redeliffe project should be paused accepted.
- Early works at the Toowoomba project should be paused accepted.

I submit that my entire statement was in respect of the fact that construction at hospital sites have been stopped and that will impact the delivery of beds within the promised timeframe.

## THE MEMBER MAKING THE STATEMENT MUST HAVE KNOWN, AT THE TIME THE STATEMENT WAS MADE, THAT IT WAS INCORRECT

I acknowledge the existence of the Crisafulli LNP Government's Plan, however the plan does not have clear deliverable timeframes that the government can be held to account on. This is evidenced by the Member for Clayfield in his correspondence, where he referenced the motion of the Queensland Opposition in the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament calling for clear timeframes and deliverable measures in relation to the Plan.

I submit that my statement was in relation to the Crisafulli LNP Government not being able to deliver the number of beds promised – 2,200 by 2028 – within the timeframe and with no action at some of the hospital sites the promise would not be delivered at all.

#### IN MAKING THE STATEMENT, THE MEMBER INTENDED TO MISLEAD THE HOUSE

I submit that the Member for Clayfield has provided no evidence to substantiate their claims that I intentionally misled the Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament.

In addition, I submit that my statement was not misleading within the context of my broader speech, as outlined above.

#### CONCLUSION

Standing Order 269 (4) requires that in considering whether such a matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee, that the Speaker should take account of the degree of importance of the matter which has been raised and whether an adequate apology or explanation has been made in respect of the matter.

I refer to previous Speaker's rulings, which I note, have been referred in your recent rulings, that of former Speaker Simpson on 16 October 2014 and expanded on by former Speaker Pitt on 4 April 2022, when former Speaker Pitt stated: "The nature of political debate is that members engage in argument by discussing opposing viewpoints or different opinions, oftentimes using different expressions, statistics or methods of calculation".

I also refer to former Speaker Pitt's ruling where he stated that he was loathed "to send to the Ethics Committee matters that involve arguments over the characterisation of a policy". I submit that the Member for Clayfield and I have a difference of opinion in respect to the characterisation of the policy, and the matter raised is in the realm of 'technical'. This is because my contribution which has

been selectively extracted by the Member for Clayfield should be read in conjunction with my whole speech.

The Legislative Assembly of the Queensland Parliament is a chamber of debate, of ideas and policy and differing views. I believe that the matter raised by the Member for Clayfield is technical in nature, because I was using language regarding the delivery or lack there of, of hospital beds, within a previously promised timeframe. Since coming to government, the LNP have changed their position, and while they have released a Plan, they have not provided any timeframes. As evidenced by the accepted recommendations in the government's response to the Plan, the target of 2028 cannot be realised.

I also submit that the matter raised by the Member for Clayfield does not "seriously impinge upon the rights and powers of the House, committee or members" and does not "seriously mispresent the record of the House" or "unfairly affected the reputation of a member", pursuant to your recent Speaker's statement on 10 June 2025.

I note your Speaker's Statement on 2 April 2025 regarding the process for how matters of privilege are dealt with. As such, if you require any further information to support your consideration of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact my office or me directly to discuss.

Yours sincerely

STEVEN MILES MP

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

### ATTACHMENT 1



TV~News~Clip~https://www.9news.com.au/videos/national/key-1-1-billion-hospital-project-hit-by-delays/cm8pn8aol00080hoc5xk4q3cr