



The Honourable Tim Nicholls MP  
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services

22 APR 2026

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Mr Neil Laurie  
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Dear Mr Laurie *Neil*

I write in response to petition number 4404-26, tabled in Parliament on 24 March 2026, in relation to Proserpine Hospital rebuild.

The Crisafulli Government recognises the vital role Proserpine Hospital plays in supporting the health and wellbeing of the Greater Whitsunday region's residents and visitors. We understand the community's concerns about the hospital's ageing infrastructure following a decade of underinvestment by the former government.

To address the immediate needs of Proserpine Hospital, the Crisafulli Government in April 2025 delivered a new modular theatre integrated with the hospital's existing infrastructure. This facility is now providing essential surgical and endoscopic services, ensuring patients and staff can continue to have easier access to high-quality care while we work on long-term plans for the hospital's redevelopment. This project was delivered through the Building Rural and Remote Hospital Program (BRRHP), forming part of the Crisafulli Government's fully-funded Hospital Rescue Plan.

More than \$350 million was invested in the 2025-26 Budget to address the former government's unfunded commitments in the BRRHP, including the modular unit at Proserpine and a Detailed Business Case to explore range of infrastructure solutions for the region.

Under the former Labor government, projects in the BRRHP were announced without completed business cases, leaving costs wildly underestimated and communities without certainty. These projects were also inappropriately funded through the oversubscribed Sustaining Capital Program, which had no funding left through to 2028.

We're fixing that and delivering the proper planning to ensure we have realistic budgets, facilities that are fit-for purpose and services that are designed around workforce, patient flow and future demand. Proserpine Hospital is one of 20 business cases included in the next stage of the Hospital Rescue Plan's Building Rural and Remote Hospital Program. This inclusion reflects the government's commitment to ensuring that regional communities have access to modern, well-equipped healthcare facilities.

The government is also committed to ensuring that the voices of the Whitsunday community are central to this process. We will continue to engage with local residents, healthcare workers, and

other stakeholders to ensure the proposed solutions align with the community's needs and expectations.

Thank you for bringing this important matter to my attention. I appreciate the petitioners' advocacy and commitment to ensuring the best possible healthcare for the Whitsunday community. I look forward to working together to deliver a modern, well-equipped Proserpine Hospital that meets the needs of current and future generations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tim Nicholls', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Tim Nicholls MP**  
Minister for Health and Ambulance Services  
Member for Clayfield