



Speech by

Dr Mark Robinson

MEMBER FOR CLEVELAND

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CLEVELAND ELECTORATE, HEALTH SERVICES

 **Dr ROBINSON** (Cleveland—LNP) (3.41 pm): Recently, my office surveyed residents of the Cleveland electorate about various health issues. Today I present the findings. The Cleveland electorate-wide survey reveals that Redland residents are very concerned that local health services are not keeping pace with demand. Residents indicated concerns in several areas: intensive care, emergency services, carparking, bed availability, palliative care, respite care and aged care.

In the 2009 election the Premier promised an \$18 million upgrade to the emergency department of the Redland Hospital, which was to be completed by early 2012. Unfortunately, the state government has confirmed that it will not be completed in 2012, as promised, and could be as late as 2013-14, according to the QIP 2011 document. It is disappointing to local residents that this election promise has become another Bligh government broken promise.

A key component of that election promise was a helipad for emergencies on the southern Moreton Bay islands, including North Stradbroke Island. Sadly, the government scrapped the helipad without community consultation, making it another Bligh government broken promise to my electorate.

Another matter raised by Cleveland residents was the need for more carpark spaces at Redland Hospital. The carpark is continually overfull and has become a public risk. Today I call on the government to better utilise the current hospital footprint to create an extra 50 to 100 spaces. This can be done at little cost and will immediately alleviate some of the pressure. The government also needs to accelerate planning for a long-term solution to the parking crisis.

Since being elected in 2009, I have called on the government to provide a palliative care unit in the Redlands. Residents surveyed joined the 3,000 signatories to my earlier petition calling on the government to provide a palliative care unit and to stop denying terminally ill Redland residents the care they need.

Only a can-do Queensland LNP government will plan and provide for the health services that Queensland needs. I invite the health minister to come out of hiding, visit the Redland Hospital, get the ED upgrade back on track, fix the carpark and commit to a 10-bed palliative care unit.