



THE HON NICOLA ROXON MP

Minister for Health and Ageing

BRETT RAGUSE MP

Member for Forde

MEDIA RELEASE

30 June 2009

\$44 MILLION BOOST FOR LOGAN HOSPITAL

The Minister for Health and Ageing, Nicola Roxon, Member for Forde, Brett Raguse and Queensland Deputy Premier and Health Minister Paul Lucas today visited Logan Hospital to discuss the Rudd Government's \$44 million expansion of the Logan Hospital Emergency Department.

The investment will see construction of 18 adult treatment bays, and a dedicated paediatric waiting area and treatment bays.

The Logan Hospital is a busy hospital serving the outer southern suburbs of Brisbane between the Brisbane CBD and the Gold Coast.

The Minister for Health and Ageing, Member for Forde and Deputy Premier were briefed on the importance of work to be undertaken to expand services and cater for the growth in the southern suburbs.

Under the \$750 million *Taking Pressure off Public Hospitals* reforms introduced by the Rudd Government, Queensland has received \$146.7 million expand emergency department capacity and increasing workforce capacity.

This investment aims to relieve some of the pressure on public hospitals while initiatives to improve the efficiency of public hospitals and the primary care reforms of the Commonwealth are implemented.

Minister for Health and Ageing, Nicola Roxon said she was pleased with the progress report from Logan Hospital and looked forward to being kept up to date on developments by the local member Mr Raguse.

Ms Roxon said, "The people of Forde have a strong advocate for improved health services in Mr Raguse, he has lobbied hard for improved services for his community".

Member for Forde, Brett Raguse was pleased that this federal funding would provide these vital services for the people of his electorate.

Mr Raguse said, “We have secured almost one third of the total investment across Queensland for Logan Hospital – this is a fantastic show of support in our local hospital.

“As I move around my electorate and talk with the community they tell me that investing in health services is their number one issue and I’m pleased that this investment will improve service delivery to my constituents,” said Mr Raguse.

Local State MPs Evan Morehead and Desley Scott also attended the tour.

Announcement of a project team and the release of plans for the project are expected in the coming months.

Other projects in Queensland to receive funding under the *Taking Pressure off Public Hospitals* program include:

- \$45.6 million for a new 12 bay Paediatric Emergency Department, 20 short stay paediatric ward beds and specialist outpatient clinics at Price Charles;
- \$18 million for a helipad, four paediatric treatment bays and four consulting rooms at Redland Hospital;
- \$19 million for 11 fast track bays and additional short stay capacity at QEII;
- \$6.7 million for six paediatric short stay observation beds at Ipswich hospital;
- \$5.2 million for five treatment bays and dedicated paediatric space at Caboolture hospital;
- \$4 million for additional observation beds and improvements to radiology and x-ray services at Bundaberg hospital; and
- \$2 million for new accommodation of up to 12 patients awaiting ambulance discharge or transfer at Toowoomba hospital.

For all Media inquires please contact the Minister’s office on 02 6277 7220.