MEDIA RELEASE

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Significant achievements in healthcare highlighted in annual report

The Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service’s (DDHHS) commitment to deliver quality healthcare to the rural and regional communities has resulted in significant achievements during the 2015-2016 financial year.

Board Chair Mr Mike Horan said these achievements featured in the health service’s annual report, which was tabled in parliament this afternoon (Friday 30 September).

“Once again we have seen an increase in activity which has resulted in great outcomes for patients,” Mr Horan said.

“The Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service is the only health service in Queensland that has no patients waiting longer than clinically recommended for specialist outpatient appointments.

“Additionally, for the past two-and-a-half years, there has been no long waits for elective surgeries.”

Mr Horan praised the efforts of staff who have worked hard under the leadership and direction of the Board and DDHHS executive members to achieve these results.

“Staff work consistently to reduce the timeframes for services, whilst also maintaining a focus on quality and safety,” he said.

Additional highlights from this year’s DDHHS Annual Report 2015-2016 include:

• reduction of dental waiting lists by 54 per cent resulting in no patients waiting longer than the clinically recommended time for treatment
• world first robotic ear, nose and throat surgery performed in a regional setting on a public patient (in conjunction with St Andrew’s Hospital)
• increased telehealth consultations across the health service
• adoption of a single accreditation process under the International Organisational Standard (ISO) 9001 Quality Management Standard
• the announcement of two major infrastructure projects from an accumulated surplus:
  ➢ $8.1 million seventh operating theatre at the Toowoomba Hospital
  ➢ $2.6 million new staff accommodation and private practice clinic at Miles Hospital
• the welcoming of 48 graduate nurses and a record number of 39 interns.

DDHHS year at a glance

• 9110: Elective surgeries performed (up 377 from 2014-15)
• 76,087: Separations (discharges) (up 4277)
• 3067: Births (up 26)
• 155,125: Emergency department presentations (up 5945)
• 5128: Telehealth consultations (up 630)
• 40,242: Adult dental treatments (up 5898)
• 15,732: Surgery hours (up 1954)

To view a summary or the full copy of the annual report, [click here]

Ends
DDHHS_media@health.qld.gov.au

MEDIA: Contact Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service Media Team 4699 8052, 0417 795 568 or