

### Media statement

27 March 2017

#### **Inpatient services to begin at Sunshine Coast University Hospital**

Sunshine Coast University Hospital (SCUH) has enjoyed a successful first week of operation, seeing 1462 outpatients in just four days, across the Ambulatory Care Centre, Adem Crosby Centre and Renal Department.

After more than four years of construction and commissioning, the \$1.8 billion facility welcomed its first outpatients on Tuesday, 21 March 2017.

Kevin Hegarty, Chief Executive of Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) said the admission of patients to SCUH was a significant moment in the development of health services for SCHHS communities.

“It’s also a very proud moment for all the staff who have been involved in the design of the hospital and all the staff who will be delivering the high quality care in the facility.”

“The pride and commitment to patient care at SCUH is also of course the same consistently demonstrated by staff across the SCHHS—at Nambour General Hospital, Gympie Hospital, Caloundra Health Service and Maleny Soldiers Memorial Hospital as well as aged care and community services.”

This week sees some more major milestones for health services in the Sunshine Coast:

#### **28 March 2017—First inpatients**

Patients will be admitted to SCUH from Tuesday 28 March. Specialties and departments available from that date will include general medicine, coronary care including cardiac investigations and cardiac catheterisation, interventional radiology, intensive care, neonatal care, paediatric and geriatric services, and rehabilitation.

#### **28 March 2017—Emergency Department opens**

28 March also marks the opening of SCUH’s Emergency Department (ED), from 7am. From this point onwards, SCUH will be the local ED for Caloundra residents, as the ED at Caloundra Health Service is moving to SCUH, just 8km away.

There are also Emergency Departments at Nambour General Hospital, Gympie Hospital and Maleny Soldiers Memorial Hospital. A Minor injury and Illness Clinic will operate at Caloundra Health Service between 9am and 9pm seven days a week.

#### **29 March 2017 – Maternity services begin**

Maternity services will begin at SCUH from 7am on Wednesday 29 March. Birthing is being transferred from Nambour General Hospital (NGH) to the new facility to create one high

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quality service. Antenatal and post-natal outpatient appointments will be available at NGH as well as SCUH. This includes an extended midwifery service, where women are cared for and supported at home after birthing.

#### 4 April 2017—Elective Surgery

Elective surgery is scheduled to commence at SCUH from Tuesday, 4 April 2017.

#### Services available to patients at SCUH will include:

- Emergency Department
- Comprehensive cancer services, including on-site radiotherapy
- Specialised medical and surgical services, including a major trauma service and paediatrics
- Maternity service, including neonatal care for premature babies to a level not currently available in the region
- Acute rehabilitation service
- Mental health inpatient service, including the Coast's first inpatient child and adolescent capacity
- Renal services (including kidney dialysis)
- Interventional and diagnostic clinical support services, including a PET scanner for diagnosing certain types of cancer and cardiac catheterisation laboratories
- Ambulatory care (outpatient) services
- Allied health services, such as physiotherapy and occupational therapy.

**ENDS**

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