

## MEDIA RELEASE

24 October 2016

### Farr Home project starts

The Darling Downs Hospital and Health Board visited Murgon today and provided an update on a key capital works project.

Board Chair Mr Mike Horan said when the Board was in the South Burnett earlier this year they had announced a \$4.2 million joint venture with Griffith University and Queensland Rural Medical Education (QRME) to refurbish the old Farr Home building at Kingaroy Hospital.

“The Board committed \$2.7 million from the hospital and health service’s operating surplus to the project which will establish a dental training and treatment clinic plus community health services in the refurbished building,” he said.

“I am pleased to announce today that work on this important project began earlier this month and is being undertaken by Hutchinson Builders, who were recently awarded the contract for the work through a public tender process.

“The project will increase oral health services at Kingaroy Hospital from four to 10 chairs, as well as support the education and training of up to 10 dental students from Griffith University.

“The work is scheduled to be completed at the end of March 2017.”

### Background

The DDHH Board holds its regular monthly meeting in a rural location every second month.

The Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service (DDHHS), which includes the South Burnett, delivers hospital and healthcare services to a population of nearly 300,000 and covers an area of approximately 90,000 square kilometres, around one-and-a-half times the size of Tasmania.

The DDHHS delivers care from 20 hospitals and six residential care facilities, and manages an annual budget of more than \$670 million.

### Ends

**MEDIA:** Contact Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service Media Team 4699 8547, 0438 702 328 or [DDHHS\\_media@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:DDHHS_media@health.qld.gov.au)