MEDIA RELEASE

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DDHHS Board invests in South Burnett

Darling Downs Hospital and Health (DDHH) Board Chair Mr Mike Horan today announced more than $249,000 worth of funding for equipment purchases for South Burnett hospitals.

Mr Horan made the announcement at the Board’s February meeting, held in Cherbourg to coincide with the opening of the new Women’s and Children’s Service and Place of Healing at Cherbourg Hospital.

“The DDHH Board is committed to continual investment in improved patient care across the health service, so it was a pleasure to meet with community representatives and share this good news, particularly on such an important occasion,” Mr Horan said.

“We hold every second Board meeting in a rural location and today we welcomed community representatives from Cherbourg, Murgon and other parts of the South Burnett at Cherbourg’s historic Ration Shed.”

Mr Horan said the Board had approved the purchase of equipment for all five of the hospitals operated by the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service (DDHHS) in the South Burnett.

“The Board is extremely pleased to be able to provide these funds, totalling more than $249,000, to help in the delivery of better health care for patients in the South Burnett,” Mr Horan said.

“Our health service’s stated purpose is to deliver quality healthcare in partnership with our communities and we think this is an excellent example of fulfilling that purpose.

“Here at Cherbourg an additional $10,000 will be available for the provision of Telehealth services.

“Telehealth, which allows patients to have access to specialist service via video-link, has been used to great effect in helping to improve the hearing of many local children and it’s something the Board is very eager to support.

“At Nanango Hospital, $10,000 has been allocated for the purchase of a hospital bed mover, which will be used to transfer patients from the ward to the helipad quickly and safely.

“Wondai Hospital will be using $13,000 to purchase a pressure redistribution mattress, which will help to increase comfort and reduce pressure injuries for patients in recovery.

“Murgon Hospital will benefit from a $12,000 multifunction printer-scanner-fax machine to replace outdated equipment, and a vital signs monitor and stand valued at $7,200.
“Kingaroy Hospital is also set to purchase various items of equipment for improved patient care, including a humidifier for high-flow air delivery valued at $9,800; a digital tourniquet for administering anaesthesia during surgery worth $7,324; two vaccine fridges totalling $10,000; an electrocardiograph (ECG) valued at $10,000 and a steriliser valued at $160,000.”

Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service operates 20 hospitals and six residential aged care facilities, covering an area of 90,000 square kilometres, and encompassing the local government areas of Toowoomba Regional Council, Western Downs regional Council, Southern Downs Regional Council, South Burnett regional Council, Goondiwindi Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council and part of Banana Shire Council (community of Taroom).

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