

Rebecca Fanning

From: Rebecca Fanning
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 8:03 AM
To: Amy Hunter
Cc: Katharine Wright; Danielle Cohen
Subject: Re: Questions

The response in the paper says "That's why over the past two years, we've increased Redland Hospital's budget by \$27 million".

Sent from my iPhone

On 6 Feb 2019, at 4:35 pm, Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Are you guys comfortable with the below response for Janelle?

I've just deleted the reference to Redlands hospital budget increase and I'll get the department to put in Metro Souths increase over two years.

Let me know
 Amy

Amy Hunter

s73 - Irrelevant

Begin forwarded message:

From: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Date: 6 February 2019 at 4:18:56 pm AEST
To: 'Katharine Wright' <katharine.wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>, Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: news <news@health.qld.gov.au>, Robert Hoge <Robert.Hoge@health.qld.gov.au>, Natalie Patch <Natalie.Patch@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Questions

Hi all,

Below is our proposed response to the Courier Mail. Let me know if there are any issues.

On the phone with Janelle now. She's asked if we can get a response through by 4.30pm. Looks like it's going front page.

Cheers,
 Damon

Please attribute the following to a Queensland Health spokesperson:

We're committed to finding ways to constantly improve the healthcare we deliver and a lot of this is led by the clinicians on the ground.

That's why over the past two years we've increased Metro South's budget by more than \$XX million, and Redland Hospital's clinical workforce by more than 60 nurses and 24 doctors.

On top of that, we're delivering a raft of capital improvements including a \$566,000 four-bed expansion to its emergency department and a \$1.16 million upgrade to the maternity unit to include a water birthing suite, bringing the total number of birthing suites to seven.

We're also getting on with the new Redland Hospital Infrastructure Master Plan 2019, which includes an intensive care unit (ICU).

Background

The Redland Hospital Infrastructure Plan from 2015 has been updated this year with extensive consultation along the way.

The new Redland Hospital Infrastructure Master Plan 2019 includes an intensive care unit (ICU) and is in the approval stage.

The expansion of medical specialty services is factored into the Master Plan. Services are increased when opportunities arise.

Currently, southeast Queensland Hospital and Health Services perform emergency road retrievals and they do it safely and effectively, following established guidelines.

Connecting Care to Recovery 2016–2021: A plan for Queensland's State-funded mental health, alcohol and other drug services includes additional new investment of \$350 million over five years and priorities to enhance the range of service models across the care continuum, in particular for community treatment, community support and community bed-based services.

Queensland Health continues to deliver priority mental health capital projects to complement the existing service system and enhance the suite of treatment and rehabilitation options available to better support people living with severe and complex mental health problems.

Over the next two years, 60 new mental health beds will be made available across Queensland, including:

- a 12-bed Adolescent Extended Treatment Centre on The Prince Charles Hospital campus (operational early 2020)
- three six-bed youth Step Up Step Down facilities in North Brisbane, South Brisbane and Cairns
- three new adult 10-bed purpose built SUSD facilities are being established in Mackay, Gladstone and Bundaberg.

From: Miles, Janelle

Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 10:55 AM

To: news <news@health.qld.gov.au>; Robert Hoge <Robert.Hoge@health.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Questions

Hi, Janelle Miles here from The Courier-Mail. We have been sent a copy of an "Open Letter to the People of the Redlands) from an ED doctor. It raises issues about bed shortages and patient safety regarding the lack of medical specialty services at Redland, also the lack of an intensive care unit.

My questions are:

1. Does Queensland Health have an infrastructure plan for the Redland Hospital to expand in line with population increases?
2. Is there a plan to put an ICU at the Redland Hospital?
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5. Is there a plan to increase the number of mental health beds in southeast Queensland hospitals?

With thanks, Janelle

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JANELLE MILES
Journalist

Courier Mail Sunday Mail

Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006
GPO Box 130, Brisbane, QLD 4001

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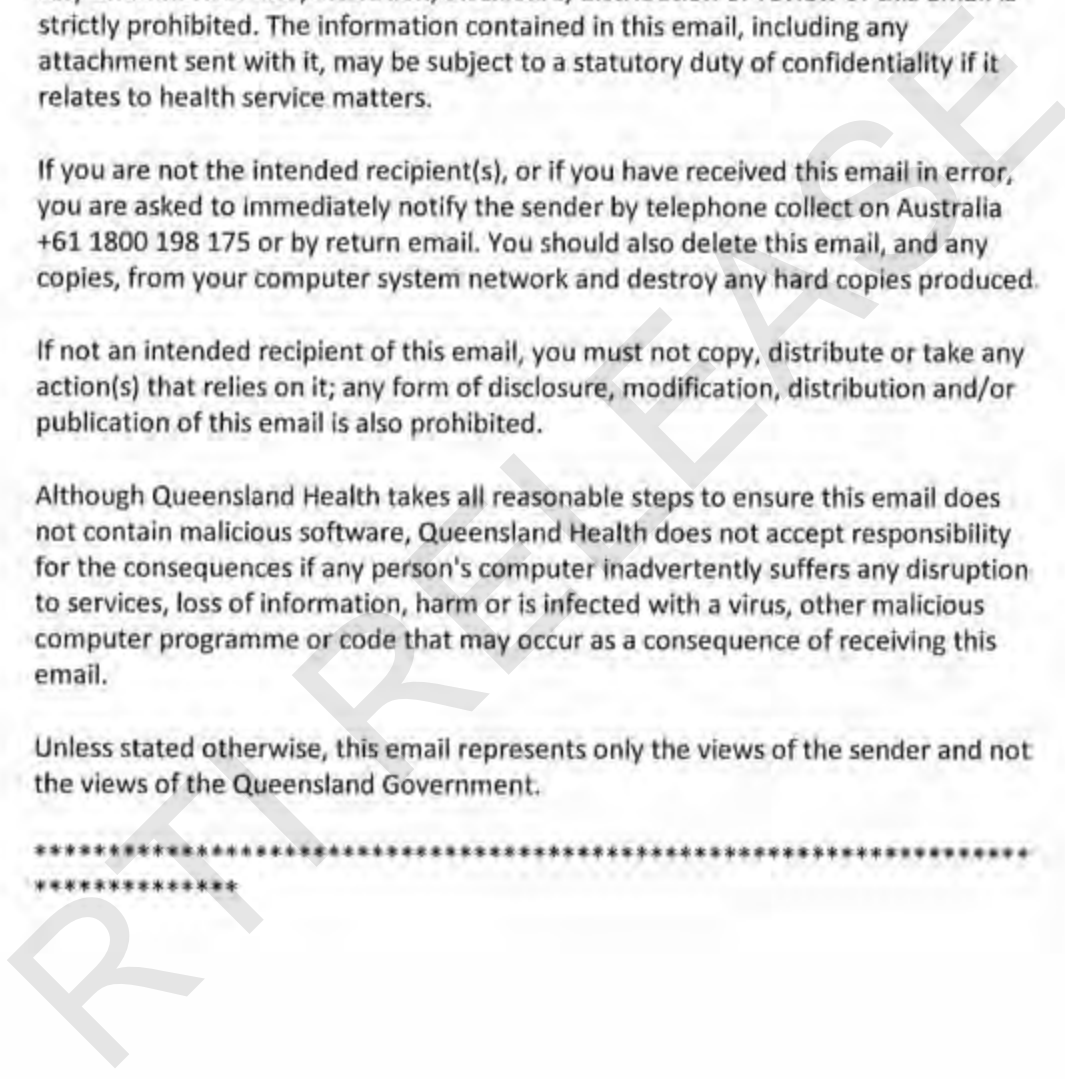
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Rebecca Fanning

From: Jarran Heywood
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 11:05 AM
To: Rebecca Fanning
Subject: FW: Enquiry by The Courier Mail

From: Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, February 6, 2019 11:04 AM
To: Jarran Heywood <Jarran.Heywood@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Danielle Cohen <Danielle.Cohen@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Riley Lang <Riley.Lang@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Enquiry by The Courier Mail

FYI – apparently an ED doctor at Redlands hospital has sent an open letter to the DG about problems at Redlands hospital.

Amy

From: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 11:01 AM
To: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Gemma Hodgetts <Gemma.Hodgetts@health.qld.gov.au>; Jasmina Joldic <Jasmina.Joldic@health.qld.gov.au>; news <news@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Enquiry by The Courier Mail

Hi all,

Just a heads-up, the Courier Mail is doing a story on the letter referenced below.

The clinician, Michael Cameron, sent the letter to the DG this morning. SDLO are digging it up for us.

We'll keep you updated with our response. We have some lines about Redlands already from an enquiry earlier in the week that we can update.

Kind regards,
 Damon

From: Miles, Janelle
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 10:55:28 AM (UTC+10:00) Brisbane
To: news; Robert Hoge
Subject: Questions

Hi, Janelle Miles here from The Courier-Mail, We have been sent a copy of an "Open Letter to the People of the Redlands) from an ED doctor.
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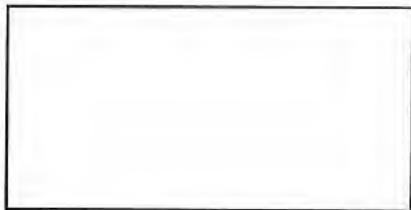
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With thanks, Janelle

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JANELLE MILES

Journalist



Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006
GPO Box 130. Brisbane. QLD 4001

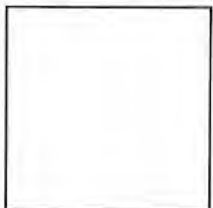
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RTI RELEASED

Amy Hunter

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 5:35 PM
To: Kerry Manifold
Cc: Amy Hunter; Danielle Cohen
Subject: CM - Redland Hospital
Attachments: 20190207 HIB Redland Hospital.docx

Hi Kerry, Amy raised this at the 3pm. A dr at Redland hospital has written an open letter to the CM. See below.

Janelle Miles is writing it up, she's only gone to dept for comment – not our office. Dept understands it's going to be front page. HIB attached.

Open Letter to the People of the Redlands (including the Moreton Bay Islands) and Wynnum

I am writing to you as your doctor. Maybe not today but tomorrow, or next week, or next year. I work in the Redland Hospital Emergency Department. When you are brought to my ED I may well be your doctor and my team and I will do our best to look after you. The staff are all well trained, the Emergency Department is well equipped, I am proud to say we can provide first class first world emergency medical care for the people of the Redlands. The difference begins when you need admission to hospital under a medical specialty (eg orthopaedics).

You may not be aware that at Redland Hospital we lack several key specialties (eg orthopaedics, urology). If you need to be admitted under such a specialist you can go Private or wait in the queue for a bed at the Princess Alexandra Hospital or Logan Hospital. Since those hospitals' EDs also have patients queuing for beds, significant delays are inevitable. In clinical care, that matters.

So I am writing to you today to say that if it is you who needs the Emergency Department tomorrow, or next week, or next year, choose carefully. Will you go to the Princess Alexandra Hospital, a top level Public Hospital with all specialties on site and advanced imaging such as MRI available? Or will you choose the Redland Hospital, where we will see you as soon as we can and will try our best to help you. If needed, we can transfer you on to another hospital.

In case you aren't aware, here are some of the things we can't do at the Redland Hospital

1. Any surgery (except maternity related) after 5pm weekdays or all weekend. That means if you get appendicitis and come to us you may need to be transferred to have it removed.
2. Emergency Orthopaedic surgery any time. We are pretty good with fractures and dislocations in the ED but some cases need a specialist surgeon. We only have visiting surgeons in the Fracture clinic (daytime most days, Monday to Friday).
3. Ear nose and throat, ophthalmology, neurology, urology, vascular surgery among many more specialties. We refer people needing those specialist services to other hospitals.
4. Coronary angiograms, stents, bypass surgery. We do have a Cardiologist available to give an opinion on some days of the week but for Public patients south of the river those procedures are only done at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.
5. Intensive Care. If you need to be put on life support, we can do it but then we need to transfer you somewhere else, with an Intensive Care Unit. Sometimes that takes quite a while to arrange. We will send a senior doctor and nurse with you in the ambulance when you are transferred.

We do however have free parking for staff, patients and relatives.

Like other Public Hospitals we are struggling for space to put all our patients. They often wait for days in my ED for a bed in our hospital or another hospital. The same can be said of other EDs in Metro South. But at least if you are waiting in the same ED as the Specialist attends, you will be likely to get your care sooner. That can be important.

As your doctor, I have a duty to warn you that the choice you make may make a difference.

RTI RELEASE

STEVEN MILES – HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES

REDLAND HOSPITAL

Over the past two years the Palaszczuk Government has increased Metro South's budget by more than \$27 million, and Redland Hospital's clinical workforce by more than 60 nurses and 24 doctors.

On top of that, we're delivering a raft of capital improvements including an expansion to its emergency department and an upgrade to the maternity unit to include a water birthing suite, bringing the total number of birthing suites to seven.

We're also getting on with the new Redland Hospital Infrastructure Master Plan 2019, which includes an intensive care unit (ICU).

At Redland Hospital emergency department, patients waited a median time of only 23 minutes in December to be treated across all categories.

And importantly, 100% of the most critically ill patients were seen immediately.

While we're investing in our hospitals, the LNP Opposition is doing nothing but bagging out our hospitals and hardworking healthcare staff.

They haven't said a thing about the \$52.7 million cut from the Morrison Government to Metro South.

Background

The emergency department upgrade will cost \$566,000 and add four beds.

And the maternity upgrade is at a cost of \$1.16 million

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Connecting Care to Recovery 2016–2021: A plan for Queensland's State-funded mental health, alcohol and other drug services includes additional new investment of \$350 million over five years and priorities to enhance the range of service models across the care continuum, in particular for community treatment, community support and community bed-based services.

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Katharine Wright

RTI RELEASED

Amy Hunter

From: news <news@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 5:09 PM
To: Katharine Wright; Damon Guppy; Amy Hunter
Cc: Robert Hoge; Natalie Patch; news
Subject: RE: Questions
Attachments: RE: Questions

Hi Kat,

Damon has left for the day but I've attached the response that went back to Janelle.

Thanks,
 Sarah

From: Katharine Wright [mailto:Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 5:07 PM
To: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>; Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: news <news@health.qld.gov.au>; Robert Hoge <Robert.Hoge@health.qld.gov.au>; Natalie Patch <Natalie.Patch@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Questions

Hey Damon can you flick me to final response that went to Janelle?

Thanks!

From: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 4:19 PM
To: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: news <news@health.qld.gov.au>; Robert Hoge <Robert.Hoge@health.qld.gov.au>; Natalie Patch <Natalie.Patch@health.qld.gov.au>
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Funding to Redland Hospital has increased significantly over the past three years.

Financial Year	Redland Exp*	FTE	FTE Medical	FTE Nursing
2016	\$189,703,141	1123	143	524
2017	\$202,012,900	1175	154	557
2018	\$216,525,912	1230	167	583

*Includes Redland Hospital, Gunda Pa & Aged Care Residential. It excludes mental health (funded as separate organisational unit through the Princess Alexandra Hospital) and a number of other services provided in the area such as palliative care (funded through Princess Alexandra Hospital)

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To: news <news@health.qld.gov.au>; Robert Hoge <Robert.Hoge@health.qld.gov.au>

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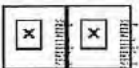
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JANELLE MILES

Journalist



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RTI RELEASE

Amy Hunter

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Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 4:49 PM
To: Miles, Janelle
Cc: news
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Let me know if you need anything else.

Kind regards,
Damon

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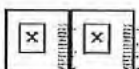
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With thanks, Janelle

JANELLE MILES

Journalist

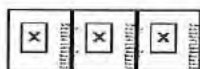


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RTI RELEASE

Amy Hunter

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 4:41 PM
To: Damon Guppy
Cc: Amy Hunter; news; Robert Hoge; Natalie Patch
Subject: Re: Questions

Hey can you take out the dollar figures like below? Also I feel like we could answer all her questions with 'yes' (except for retrieval teams).

Don't know if you wanted to do that as well? Up to you.

Sent from my iPhone

On 6 Feb 2019, at 4:19 pm, Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi all,

Below is our proposed response to the Courier Mail. Let me know if there are any issues.

On the phone with Janelle now. She's asked if we can get a response through by 4.30pm. Looks like it's going front page.

Cheers,
Damon

Please attribute the following to a Queensland Health spokesperson:

We're committed to finding ways to constantly improve the healthcare we deliver and a lot of this is led by the clinicians on the ground.

That's why over the past two years we've increased Redland Hospital's budget by \$27 million and its clinical workforce by more than 60 nurses and 24 doctors.

On top of that, we're delivering a raft of capital improvements including an expansion to its emergency department and an upgrade to the maternity unit to include a water birthing suite, bringing the total number of birthing suites to seven.

We're also getting on with the new Redland Hospital Infrastructure Master Plan 2019, which includes an intensive care unit (ICU).

Background

The Redland Hospital Infrastructure Plan from 2015 has been updated this year with extensive consultation along the way.

The new Redland Hospital Infrastructure Master Plan 2019 includes an intensive care unit (ICU) and is in the approval stage.

The expansion of medical specialty services is factored into the Master Plan. Services are increased when opportunities arise.

Currently, southeast Queensland Hospital and Health Services perform emergency road retrievals and they do it safely and effectively, following established guidelines.

Connecting Care to Recovery 2016–2021: A plan for Queensland's State-funded mental health, alcohol and other drug services includes additional new investment of \$350 million over five years and priorities to enhance the range of service models across the care continuum, in particular for community treatment, community support and community bed-based services.

Queensland Health continues to deliver priority mental health capital projects to complement the existing service system and enhance the suite of treatment and rehabilitation options available to better support people living with severe and complex mental health problems.

Over the next two years, 60 new mental health beds will be made available across Queensland, including:

- a 12-bed Adolescent Extended Treatment Centre on The Prince Charles Hospital campus (operational early 2020)
- three six-bed youth Step Up Step Down facilities in North Brisbane, South Brisbane and Cairns
- three new adult 10-bed purpose built SUSD facilities are being established in Mackay, Gladstone and Bundaberg.

Funding to Redland Hospital has increased significantly over the past three years.

Financial Year	Redland Exp*	FTE	FTE Medical	FTE Nursing
2016	\$189,703,141	1123	143	524
2017	\$202,012,900	1175	154	557
2018	\$216,525,912	1230	167	583

**Includes Redland Hospital, Gunda Pa & Aged Care Residential. It excludes mental health (funded as separate organisational unit through the Princess Alexandra Hospital) and a number of other services provided in the area such as palliative care (funded through Princess Alexandra Hospital)*

From: Miles, Janelle

Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 10:55 AM

To: news <news@health.qld.gov.au>; Robert Hoge <Robert.Hoge@health.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Questions

Hi, Janelle Miles here from The Courier-Mail. We have been sent a copy of an "Open Letter to the People of the Redlands) from an ED doctor.

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With thanks, Janelle




JANELLE MILES
Journalist

Courier Mail Sunday Mail

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RTI RELEASED

Amy Hunter

From: Amy Hunter
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 4:35 PM
To: Steven Miles; Katharine Wright
Cc: Danielle Cohen; Rebecca Fanning
Subject: Fwd: Questions

Are you guys comfortable with the below response for Janelle?

I've just deleted the reference to Redlands hospital budget increase and I'll get the department to put in Metro Souths increase over two years.

Let me know
 Amy

Amy Hunter



Begin forwarded message:

From: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Date: 6 February 2019 at 4:18:56 pm AEST
To: 'Katharine Wright' <katharine.wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>, Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: news <news@health.qld.gov.au>, Robert Hoge <Robert.Hoge@health.qld.gov.au>, Natalie Patch <Natalie.Patch@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Questions

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On the phone with Janelle now. She's asked if we can get a response through by 4.30pm. Looks like it's going front page.

Cheers,
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JANELLE MILES
Journalist

Courier Mail Sunday Mail

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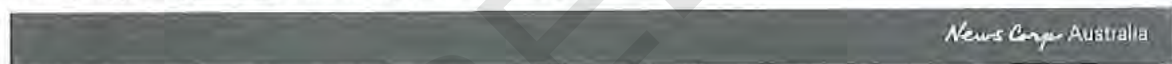
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RTI RELEASE

Amy Hunter

From: Amy Hunter
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 3:31 PM
To: Bree Graafland
Cc: Katharine Wright
Subject: Redlands ED doctor
Attachments: Article from 2008

Thanks again Bree,

Attached is the story from 2008 at Logan and below is the open letter sent to the Courier Mail.

Cheers
 Amy

From: Miles, Janelle
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 1:34 PM
To: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Here it is...

Open Letter to the People of the Redlands (including the Moreton Bay Islands) and Wynnum

I am writing to you as your doctor. Maybe not today but tomorrow, or next week, or next year. I work in the Redland Hospital Emergency Department. When you are brought to my ED I may well be your doctor and my team and I will do our best to look after you. The staff are all well trained, the Emergency Department is well equipped, I am proud to say we can provide first class first world emergency medical care for the people of the Redlands. The difference begins when you need admission to hospital under a medical specialty (eg orthopaedics).

You may not be aware that at Redland Hospital we lack several key specialties (eg orthopaedics, urology). If you need to be admitted under such a specialist you can go Private or wait in the queue for a bed at the Princess Alexandra Hospital or Logan Hospital. Since those hospitals' EDs also have patients queuing for beds, significant delays are inevitable. In clinical care, that matters.

So I am writing to you today to say that if it is you who needs the Emergency Department tomorrow, or next week, or next year, choose carefully. Will you go to the Princess Alexandra Hospital, a top level Public Hospital with all specialties on site and advanced imaging such as MRI available? Or will you choose the Redland Hospital, where we will see you as soon as we can and will try our best to help you. If needed, we can transfer you on to another hospital.

In case you aren't aware, here are some of the things we can't do at the Redland Hospital

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5. Intensive Care. If you need to be put on life support, we can do it but then we need to transfer you somewhere else, with an Intensive Care Unit. Sometimes that takes quite a while to arrange. We will send a senior doctor and nurse with you in the ambulance when you are transferred.

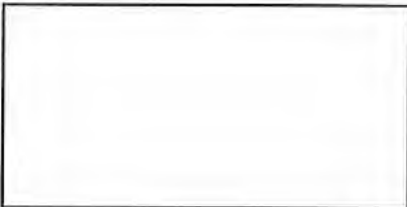
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Like other Public Hospitals we are struggling for space to put all our patients. They often wait for days in my ED for a bed in our hospital or another hospital. The same can be said of other EDs in Metro South. But at least if you are waiting in the same ED as the Specialist attends, you will be likely to get your care sooner. That can be important.

As your doctor, I have a duty to warn you that the choice you make may make a difference.

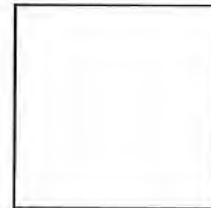
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JANELLE MILES
Journalist

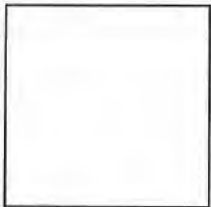


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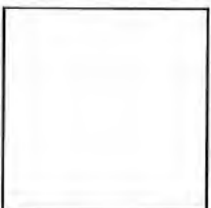
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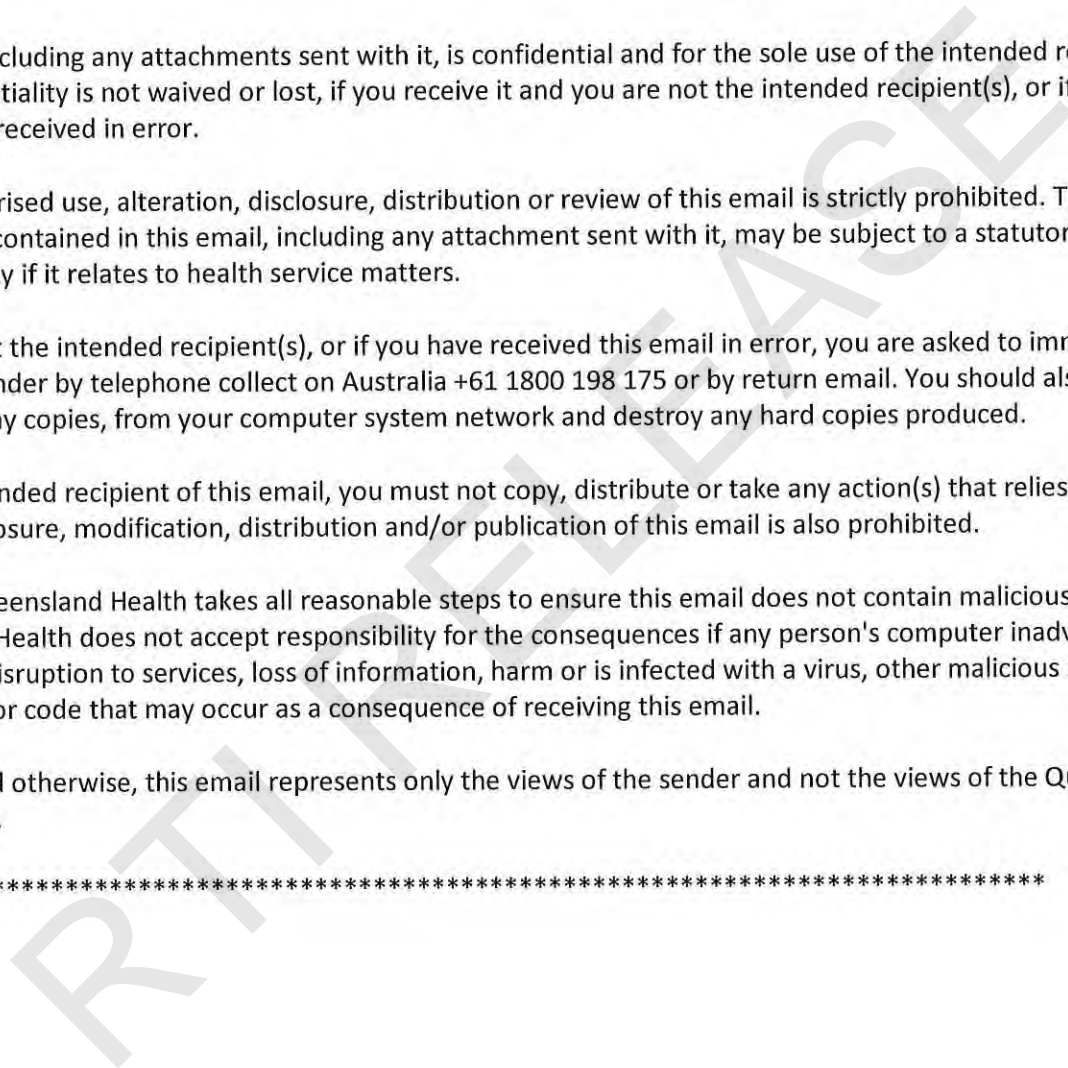
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Amy Hunter

From: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 2:01 PM
To: Amy Hunter; Katharine Wright
Cc: Gemma Hodgetts; Jasmina Joldic; news
Subject: FW: Here it is...

Hi all,

Below is the letter the Courier Mail has received.

Response should be ready soon.

Kind regards,
 Damon

From: Miles, Janelle
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 1:34 PM
To: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
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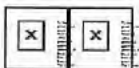
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Journalist

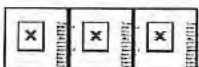


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RTI RELEASED

Jarran Heywood

From: Jarran Heywood
Sent: Wednesday, February 6, 2019 11:05 AM
To: Rebecca Fanning
Subject: FW: Enquiry by The Courier Mail

From: Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, February 6, 2019 11:04 AM
To: Jarran Heywood <Jarran.Heywood@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Danielle Cohen <Danielle.Cohen@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Riley Lang <Riley.Lang@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Enquiry by The Courier Mail

FYI – apparently an ED doctor at Redlands hospital has sent an open letter to the DG about problems at Redlands hospital.

Amy

From: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 11:01 AM
To: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Gemma Hodgetts <Gemma.Hodgetts@health.qld.gov.au>; Jasmina Joldic <Jasmina.Joldic@health.qld.gov.au>; news <news@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Enquiry by The Courier Mail

Hi all,

Just a heads-up, the Courier Mail is doing a story on the letter referenced below.

The clinician, Michael Cameron, sent the letter to the DG this morning. SDLO are digging it up for us.

We'll keep you updated with our response. We have some lines about Redlands already from an enquiry earlier in the week that we can update.

Kind regards,
Damon

From: Miles, Janelle
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 10:55:28 AM (UTC+10:00) Brisbane
To: news; Robert Hoge
Subject: Questions

Hi, Janelle Miles here from The Courier-Mail. We have been sent a copy of an "Open Letter to the People of the Redlands) from an ED doctor.
It raises issues about bed shortages and patient safety regarding the lack of medical speciality services at Redland, also the lack of an intensive care unit.

My questions are:

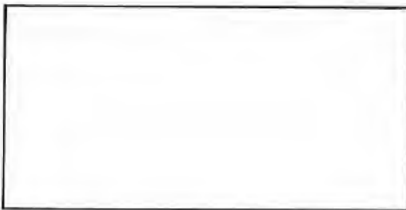
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2. Is there a plan to put an ICU at the Redland Hospital?
3. Is the department looking at increasing medical specialty services available at the Redland Hospital?
4. Is the department considering the development of a retrieval team in southeast Queensland to take pressure off EDs when patients need to be moved between hospitals to facilities with ICUs?
5. Is there a plan to increase the number of mental health beds in southeast Queensland hospitals?

With thanks, Janelle

--

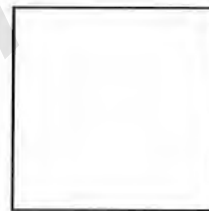
JANELLE MILES

Journalist

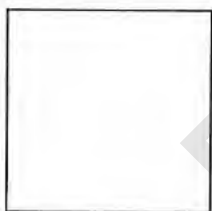


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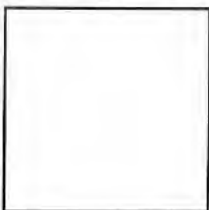
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Amy Hunter

From: Amy Hunter
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 11:16 AM
To: Damon Guppy
Subject: RE: Enquiry by The Courier Mail

He's done this before....

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/nurse-backs-whistleblower/news-story/3b627b5f8f71c19e2264cff4ab9469b2>

From: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 11:07 AM
To: Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Enquiry by The Courier Mail

Yeah, it sounds like it. The way Janelle was talking to Hoges, it sounds like they're going fairly big on it.

From: Amy Hunter [mailto:Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 11:04 AM
To: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>; Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Gemma Hodgetts <Gemma.Hodgetts@health.qld.gov.au>; Jasmina Joldic <Jasmina.Joldic@health.qld.gov.au>; news <news@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Enquiry by The Courier Mail

Thanks Damon. Is it for tomorrow's paper?

Amy

From: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 11:01 AM
To: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>; Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Gemma Hodgetts <Gemma.Hodgetts@health.qld.gov.au>; Jasmina Joldic <Jasmina.Joldic@health.qld.gov.au>; news <news@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Enquiry by The Courier Mail

Hi all,

Just a heads-up, the Courier Mail is doing a story on the letter referenced below.

The clinician, Michael Cameron, sent the letter to the DG this morning. SDLO are digging it up for us.

We'll keep you updated with our response. We have some lines about Redlands already from an enquiry earlier in the week that we can update.

Kind regards,
Damon

From: Miles, Janelle
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 10:55:28 AM (UTC+10:00) Brisbane

To: news; Robert Hoge

Subject: Questions

Hi, Janelle Miles here from The Courier-Mail. We have been sent a copy of an "Open Letter to the People of the Redlands) from an ED doctor.

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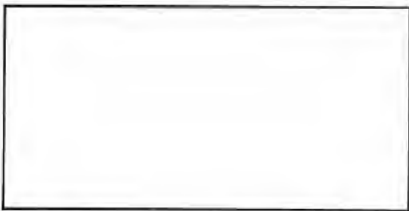
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With thanks, Janelle

--

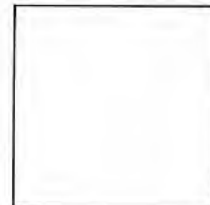
JANELLE MILES

Journalist

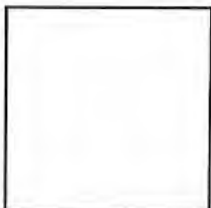


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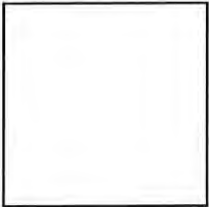
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RTI RELEASED

Katharine Wright

From: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 2:01 PM
To: Amy Hunter; Katharine Wright
Cc: Gemma Hodgetts; Jasmina Joldic; news
Subject: FW: Here it is...

Hi all,

Below is the letter the Courier Mail has received.

Response should be ready soon.

Kind regards,
 Damon

From: Miles, Janelle
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 1:34 PM
To: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Here it is...

Open Letter to the People of the Redlands (including the Moreton Bay Islands) and Wynnum

I am writing to you as your doctor. Maybe not today but tomorrow, or next week, or next year. I work in the Redland Hospital Emergency Department. When you are brought to my ED I may well be your doctor and my team and I will do our best to look after you. The staff are all well trained, the Emergency Department is well equipped, I am proud to say we can provide first class first world emergency medical care for the people of the Redlands. The difference begins when you need admission to hospital under a medical specialty (eg orthopaedics).

You may not be aware that at Redland Hospital we lack several key specialties (eg orthopaedics, urology). If you need to be admitted under such a specialist you can go Private or wait in the queue for a bed at the Princess Alexandra Hospital or Logan Hospital. Since those hospitals' EDs also have patients queuing for beds, significant delays are inevitable. In clinical care, that matters.

So I am writing to you today to say that if it is you who needs the Emergency Department tomorrow, or next week, or next year, choose carefully. Will you go to the Princess Alexandra Hospital, a top level Public Hospital with all specialties on site and advanced imaging such as MRI available? Or will you choose the Redland Hospital, where we will see you as soon as we can and will try our best to help you. If needed, we can transfer you on to another hospital.

In case you aren't aware, here are some of the things we can't do at the Redland Hospital

1. Any surgery (except maternity related) after 5pm weekdays or all weekend. That means if you get appendicitis and come to us you may need to be transferred to have it removed.
2. Emergency Orthopaedic surgery any time. We are pretty good with fractures and dislocations in the ED but some cases need a specialist surgeon. We only have visiting surgeons in the Fracture clinic (daytime most days, Monday to Friday).
3. Ear nose and throat, ophthalmology, neurology, urology, vascular surgery among many more specialties. We refer people needing those specialist services to other hospitals.
4. Coronary angiograms, stents, bypass surgery. We do have a Cardiologist available to give an opinion on some days of the week but for Public patients south of the river those procedures are only done at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

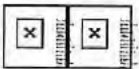
5. Intensive Care. If you need to be put on life support, we can do it but then we need to transfer you somewhere else, with an Intensive Care Unit. Sometimes that takes quite a while to arrange. We will send a senior doctor and nurse with you in the ambulance when you are transferred.

We do however have free parking for staff, patients and relatives.

Like other Public Hospitals we are struggling for space to put all our patients. They often wait for days in my ED for a bed in our hospital or another hospital. The same can be said of other EDs in Metro South. But at least if you are waiting in the same ED as the Specialist attends, you will be likely to get your care sooner. That can be important.

As your doctor, I have a duty to warn you that the choice you make may make a difference.

JANELLE MILES
Journalist

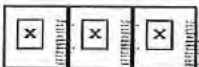


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RTI RELEASE

Katharine Wright

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 12:40 PM
To: Amy Hunter
Subject: Re: Redland Hospital

Dan says so. Worth double checking though.

Sent from my iPhone

On 7 Feb 2019, at 12:36 pm, Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Did we search for corro from him yesterday?

From: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 12:30 PM
To: Steven Miles <Steven.Miles@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: Redland Hospital

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Miles, Janelle" _____
Date: 7 February 2019 at 12:24:53 pm AEST
To: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Redland Hospital




Hi Kat, just wondering if the Minister would like to comment on the Redland Hospital? Is he likely to meet with Michael Cameron to discuss?

JANELLE MILES
 Journalist

Courier Mail Sunday Mail

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RTI RELEASED

Katharine Wright

From: Janelle Miles
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 7:48 PM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: Re: Letter to staff at Redland Hospital

Don't stay back late story is already in ... it's not big

Sent from my iPhone

On 7 Feb 2019, at 7:41 pm, Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hmmmm. I will go back to the dept with that.

Sent from my iPhone

On 7 Feb 2019, at 6:57 pm, Miles, Janelle wrote:

Ok. That is a bit weird because I know he sent an email yesterday morning.

On Thu, 7 Feb 2019 at 18:53, Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Definitely not yesterday. I can confirm DGs office received nothing yesterday except they were made aware of the open letter obviously

Sent from my iPhone

On 7 Feb 2019, at 6:18 pm, Miles, Janelle wrote:

He told me he had written to the DG yesterday so not sure how that works.

On Thu, 7 Feb 2019 at 18:16, Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

To dept that is. Nothing has come to mins office

Sent from my iPhone

On 7 Feb 2019, at 5:20 pm, Miles, Janelle wrote:

That's fine. Thank you. I understand he wrote to the DG?

On Thu, 7 Feb 2019 at 17:00, Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Janelle, here is the final. Just 2 lines removed. You can still say you understand that at no stage did Dr Cameron seek to raise his concerns with the Min before writing to the Courier Mail. (because he didn't and still hasn't).

And this line was referring to Mander and Robinson today but it was removed in case it was confusing – “No doubt some will use this coverage to further their political interests and in the process seek to further undermine confidence in the services you deliver.”

FINAL LETTER:

To the hardworking staff at Redland Hospital,

I know how hard you work to care for Redlands locals every single day.

If a Queenslander is in need of urgent care and Redland is their nearest hospital I know they will receive life saving care there.

It is irresponsible to say otherwise.

I also know you are facing growth in demand for your services, caused by a range of factors including population growth, aging, chronic disease and lack of adequate primary health care.

That is why we are expanding the Redland ED and maternity wards, and why we have plans for a much bigger expansion including an ICU.

That expansion will not be possible without first addressing car parking which is why I recently announced funding for the next stage of planning for a new car park.

We are also expanding capacity across Metro South, including a \$280 million+ upgrade at Logan hospital.

I am deeply sorry media coverage today might undermine public confidence in Redland Hospital.

But I believe most Queenslanders see through reports like these. They know how hard you work, what great hospitals we have, and I hope that by expanding all of our hospitals including in Redlands we can maintain that confidence.

Thank you for everything you do,

Steven

From: Miles, Janelle

Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 3:39 PM

To: Katharine Wright

<Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Re: Letter to staff at Redland Hospital

Great. Thank you. I won't put anything in until you give me the go ahead.

On Thu, 7 Feb 2019 at 15:35, Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hello Janelle, here is an embargoed copy of the letter to Redland Hospital staff (embargoed until final has been sent to staff, sometime in the next hr). Just wanted to get you something ASAP, I'm hoping it won't change too much.

I'll send you the final soon!

To the hardworking staff at Redland Hospital,

I know how hard you work to care for Redlands locals every single day.

If a Queenslander is in need of urgent care and Redland is their nearest hospital I know they will receive life saving care there.

It is irresponsible to say otherwise.

I also know you are facing growth in demand for your services, caused by a range of factors including population growth, aging, chronic disease and lack of adequate primary health care.

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Thank you for everything you do,

Steven

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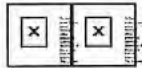
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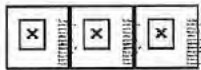
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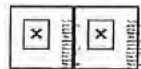
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JANELLE MILES

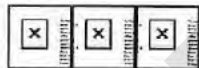
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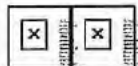
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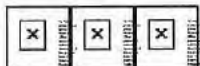
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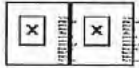
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JANELLE MILES

Journalist

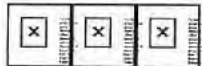


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Katharine Wright

From: Amy Hunter
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 3:31 PM
To: Bree Graafland
Cc: Katharine Wright
Subject: Redlands ED doctor
Attachments: Article from 2008

Thanks again Bree,

Attached is the story from 2008 at Logan and below is the open letter sent to the Courier Mail.

Cheers
 Amy

From: Miles, Janelle
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 1:34 PM
To: Damon Guppy <Damon.Guppy@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Here it is...

Open Letter to the People of the Redlands (including the Moreton Bay Islands) and Wynnum

I am writing to you as your doctor. Maybe not today but tomorrow, or next week, or next year. I work in the Redland Hospital Emergency Department. When you are brought to my ED I may well be your doctor and my team and I will do our best to look after you. The staff are all well trained, the Emergency Department is well equipped, I am proud to say we can provide first class first world emergency medical care for the people of the Redlands. The difference begins when you need admission to hospital under a medical specialty (eg orthopaedics).

You may not be aware that at Redland Hospital we lack several key specialties (eg orthopaedics, urology). If you need to be admitted under such a specialist you can go Private or wait in the queue for a bed at the Princess Alexandra Hospital or Logan Hospital. Since those hospitals' EDs also have patients queuing for beds, significant delays are inevitable. In clinical care, that matters.

So I am writing to you today to say that if it is you who needs the Emergency Department tomorrow, or next week, or next year, choose carefully. Will you go to the Princess Alexandra Hospital, a top level Public Hospital with all specialties on site and advanced imaging such as MRI available? Or will you choose the Redland Hospital, where we will see you as soon as we can and will try our best to help you. If needed, we can transfer you on to another hospital.

In case you aren't aware, here are some of the things we can't do at the Redland Hospital

1. Any surgery (except maternity related) after 5pm weekdays or all weekend. That means if you get appendicitis and come to us you may need to be transferred to have it removed.
2. Emergency Orthopaedic surgery any time. We are pretty good with fractures and dislocations in the ED but some cases need a specialist surgeon. We only have visiting surgeons in the Fracture clinic (daytime most days, Monday to Friday).
3. Ear nose and throat, ophthalmology, neurology, urology, vascular surgery among many more specialties. We refer people needing those specialist services to other hospitals.
4. Coronary angiograms, stents, bypass surgery. We do have a Cardiologist available to give an opinion on some days of the week but for Public patients south of the river those procedures are only done at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

5. Intensive Care. If you need to be put on life support, we can do it but then we need to transfer you somewhere else, with an Intensive Care Unit. Sometimes that takes quite a while to arrange. We will send a senior doctor and nurse with you in the ambulance when you are transferred.

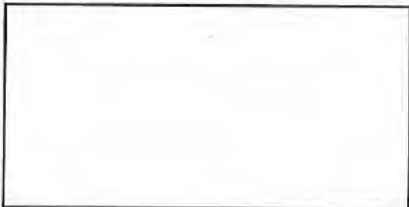
We do however have free parking for staff, patients and relatives.

Like other Public Hospitals we are struggling for space to put all our patients. They often wait for days in my ED for a bed in our hospital or another hospital. The same can be said of other EDs in Metro South. But at least if you are waiting in the same ED as the Specialist attends, you will be likely to get your care sooner. That can be important.

As your doctor, I have a duty to warn you that the choice you make may make a difference.

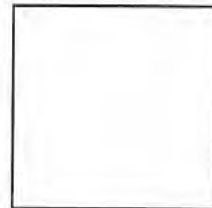
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JANELLE MILES
Journalist

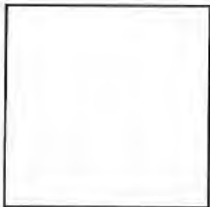


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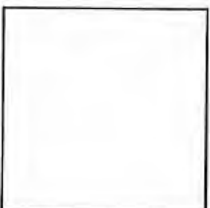
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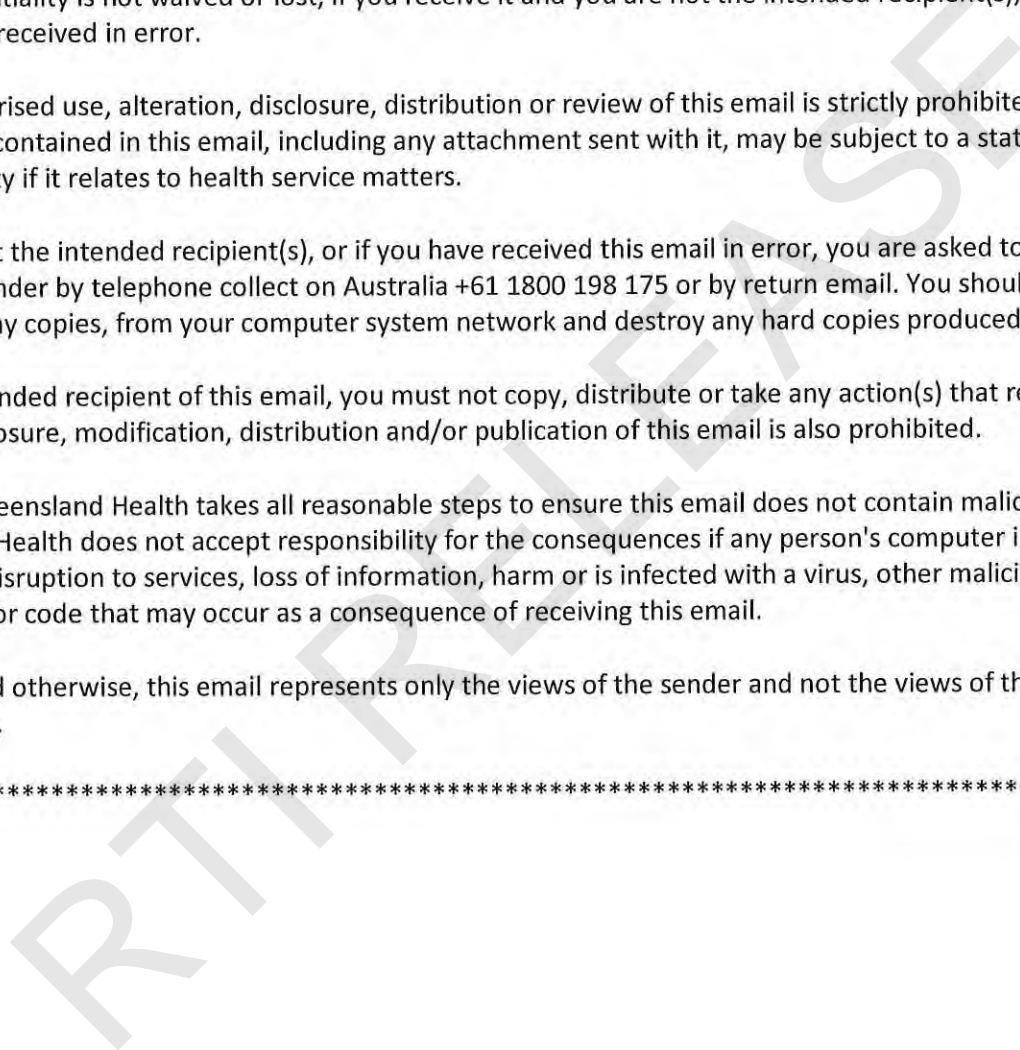
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Amy Hunter

From: Amy Hunter
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 11:16 AM
To: Katharine Wright; Danielle Cohen; Steven Miles
Cc: Rebecca Fanning
Subject: Article from 2008

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/nurse-backs-whistleblower/news-story/3b627b5f8f71c19e2264cff4ab9469b2>

Nurse backs Logan hospital whistleblower Michael Cameron

The Sunday Mail (Qld)
September 21, 2008 12:00am

A SENIOR nurse who recently resigned from Logan Hospital has backed up comments by emergency department doctor Michael Cameron that the hospital is "too dangerous and too dysfunctional".

Bill Atkinson, a nurse for nearly 20 years, worked in the same high-pressure emergency department as Dr Cameron.

He said his pleas for support were also ignored by hospital bosses and Queensland Health.

"I have a lot of respect for the man," Mr Atkinson said.

"He had the courage to step up and voice his concerns."

Dr Cameron, senior staff specialist in emergency medicine at Logan Hospital, revealed exclusively in *The Sunday Mail* last week that he had quit because staff were "overworked and overwhelmed".

He had first spoken out about problems in Queensland's besieged health system in a frank open letter published in *The Sunday Mail* in May.

The letter from Dr Cameron prompted Premier Anna Bligh and Health Minister Stephen Robertson to meet with him and appoint him as a special adviser to the Government.

But he was largely ignored and the problems at Logan only got worse.

"It had got to the point where I dreaded going to work each day," he said last week.

Mr Atkinson, who was a registered nurse and then a clinical nurse in the Logan Hospital emergency department's short-stay unit, had a similar story to tell.

He kept detailed records showing a doubling of the number of patients pushed through the short-stay unit, which had a \$7.5 million upgrade last year.

"However, with this increase in patient turnover, there was no increase in the level of staffing or support," he said.

"Like Dr Cameron, I too was dreading coming to work to the job I loved to do. I would often go home feeling overstressed and burnt out from a day's work."

He asked the nurse unit manager about the possibility of increasing staff numbers.

"I was bluntly informed that it was not going to happen as there was no budget for it," he said.

Mr Atkinson said he wrote to the director of nursing for medical services seeking a meeting.

"I stressed that the pressure was overwhelming and that there was not enough staff and support to address the current issues . . . that it was not about me, it was about the quality of care that we were not able to provide to the community of Logan."

Mr Atkinson resigned two months ago and said he was not the first experienced emergency nurse to leave Logan Hospital this year.

"I know of four other clinical nurses leaving emergency before I did and a clinical nurse and clinical nurse consultant leaving after I resigned," he said.

Ms Bligh last week acknowledged the "very high-stress, high-pressure environment" at Logan but told staff there was "light at the end of the tunnel".

The Premier said the State Government had bought nearby Logan Private Hospital and would refurbish it to provide extra beds by 2010.

Mr Atkinson, who now works at Redland Hospital, will be joined there by Dr Cameron in emergency.

RTI RELEASE

Katharine Wright

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 4:11 PM
To: Steven Miles; Danielle Cohen; Rebecca Fanning
Cc: Amy Hunter
Subject: Logan exp MR

Is everyone ok with this for Janelle tomorrow?

Rapid expansion to emergency department at Logan Hospital

A rapid expansion of the emergency department at Logan Hospital will help manage growing demand ahead of the hospital's planned \$280 million expansion.

Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services, Steven Miles, said the rapid expansion would be in place by mid next year to help reduce impact on the hospital's emergency department.

"This rapid expansion will help ease pressure on Logan Hospital sooner," Minister Miles said.

"The high tech ready-made wards are fitted out with plumbing, medical gases, clinical lighting and nurses' stations so we can deliver the extra treatment spaces direct to the Logan campus by crane.

"This is a smart approach that allows us to transition to something new faster.

"We've seen these rapid expansion wards rolled out in other parts of the state previously and they've proven an effective interim solution that mean we can treat more patients sooner.

"This is also on top of the new mental health space we will fast track. The new \$1.5 million Clinical Decision Unit for Mental Health is a dedicated space within the ED for patients experiencing mental health concerns."

Minister Miles commends the staff at Logan Hospital for their hard work in the face of high demand.

"Logan Hospital doctors, nurses and clinical support teams do an amazing job caring for the growing community of Logan," he said.

"The hospital's location in one of Queensland's largest growth corridors meaning demand for health services will continue to increase and we are delivering more sub-acute beds to treat patients with medical conditions."

The rapid expansion is expected to deliver up to 40 sub-acute beds and a transit care hub.

"This expansion to increase bed capacity at Logan Hospital will help to alleviate pressure on the Emergency Department which continues to be the second busiest ED in the state," he said.

"Our \$280 million investment to expand Logan Hospital and deliver up to 192 additional beds is already in detailed planning with construction to commence next year.

"I commend the doctors and nurses at Logan for their ongoing investment into the Logan community and for continuing to innovate so we can treat more patients while this expansion program takes shape."

Detailed planning for the temporary medical units is underway at Logan Hospital and a tender is expected to be awarded by the end of March.

ENDS

Katharine Wright

From: Miles, Janelle
Sent: Friday, 8 February 2019 3:48 PM
To: Katharine Wright
Subject: Re: Logan hospital rapid expansion

Janelle Miles

A high-tech medical version of a demountable classroom will be used to rapidly expand the stressed Logan Hospital emergency department ahead of a planned \$280 million expansion.

A tender is expected to be awarded by the end of March for the supply of a temporary, ready-made ward complete with air-conditioning, medical gases, clinical lighting and nurses' stations that can be placed on the Logan campus by crane.

Queensland Health Minister Steven Miles said the short-term medical unit would deliver up to an extra 27 beds in a new transit care hub aimed at relieving pressure on the Logan Hospital's ED.

"We've seen these rapid expansion wards rolled out in other parts of the state previously and they've proven an effective interim solution that mean we can treat more patients sooner," Mr Miles said.

He said the temporary medical unit would help ease pressure on Logan Hospital ahead of plans for a \$280 million expansion of Logan Hospital, designed to deliver up to 192 more beds, with construction due to start next year.

It also comes on top of a proposed \$1.5 million dedicated space for mental health patients within the Logan ED, which Mr Miles said would be fast tracked.

His announcement for the rapid expansion of the Logan ED comes after Redland Hospital emergency physician Michael Cameron this week spoke out about severe pressure on EDs across the Metro South Hospital and Health Service, which includes the Logan, Princess Alexandra and QEII hospitals.

The national head of the medical college representing specialist emergency physicians yesterday backed Dr Cameron and said he would visit Queensland next month to speak to members about issues at public hospitals, including bed shortages.

Simon Judkins, the Melbourne-based president of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM), said the college would always support its members and trainees advocating for better patient care.

"ACEM would welcome working with the Metro South HHS on mitigating and addressing existing demand pressures, as our members are on the frontline and are best placed to offer evidence-based practical approaches," Dr Judkins said.

"Emergency physicians care for any patient, any time. We need long-term system-wide reforms to support equal access to hospital care regardless of which Metro South Emergency Department the patient presents to."

Dr Judkins rejected suggestions that people turning up at emergency departments with complaints that could be seen by a general practitioner were the main reason for long delays and overcrowding.

"The main cause of overcrowded emergency departments is the ongoing issue of admitted patients having to stay longer in the emergency department because they are unable to access beds on the wards of the hospital for their ongoing care," he said.

"Continuing to build capacity into the overall hospital system in order to provide proper care for the region's rapidly growing population is the key."

Australian Medical Association Queensland president Dilip Dhupelia said the AMA had regular discussions with the Palaszczuk Government about the need for hospital infrastructure and medical workforce to keep pace with demand, particularly in fast-growing areas, such as Brisbane's southside.

On Fri, 8 Feb 2019 at 14:34, Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Janelle, I've updated that release below. Will it run Sunday?

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Friday, 8 February 2019 10:09 AM
To: Miles, Janelle
Cc: Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Logan hospital rapid expansion

Hi Janelle, as discussed, here is a draft release about the Logan rapid expansion. Let me know if you have any questions and I'll get a final to you asap.

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Katharine Wright

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Friday, 8 February 2019 6:26 PM
To: Robert.Hoge@health.qld.gov.au
Subject: Fwd: Logan hospital rapid expansion

Here you go.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Katharine Wright <Katharine.Wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Date: 8 February 2019 at 2:34:23 pm AEST
To: "Miles, Janelle"
Cc: Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Logan hospital rapid expansion

Hi Janelle, I've updated that release below. Will it run Sunday?

From: Katharine Wright
Sent: Friday, 8 February 2019 10:09 AM
To: Miles, Janelle <janelle.miles@news.com.au>
Cc: Amy Hunter <Amy.Hunter@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: Logan hospital rapid expansion

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"This expansion to increase bed capacity at Logan Hospital will help to alleviate pressure on the Emergency Department which continues to be the second busiest ED in the state," he said.

"Our \$280 million investment to expand Logan Hospital and deliver up to 192 additional beds is already in detailed planning with construction to commence next year.

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Detailed planning for the temporary medical units is underway at Logan Hospital and a tender is expected to be awarded by the end of March.

ENDS

RTI RELEASE

Katharine Wright

From: Sarah ORourke <Sarah.ORourke2@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, 9 February 2019 4:40 PM
To: Katharine Wright; Robert Hoge
Cc: news
Subject: Re: HEADS UP: Response from the Department of Health [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

That we are unaware of a case this year

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From: Katharine Wright <katharine.wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, February 9, 2019 4:27 pm
To: Robert Hoge
Cc: Sarah ORourke
Subject: Re: HEADS UP: Response from the Department of Health [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

What was our final response to Janelle?

Sent from my iPhone

On 9 Feb 2019, at 4:16 pm, Robert Hoge <Robert.Hoge@health.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Thanks Sarah.

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From: Sarah ORourke <sarah.orourke2@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, February 9, 2019 4:14 pm
To: Robert Hoge; 'Katharine Wright'
Subject: HEADS UP: Response from the Department of Health [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

FYI

From: McNiece, Kay [<mailto:Kay.McNiece@health.gov.au>]
Sent: Saturday, 9 February 2019 4:05 PM
To: MURPHY, Brendan <Brendan.Murphy@health.gov.au>; NORRIS, Sarah <Sarah.Norris@health.gov.au>
Cc: News <News@health.gov.au>; news <news@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Response from the Department of Health [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Brendan, the journalist is saying the Courier Mail is running in the morning that a Gold Coast women had died from Mad Cow Disease on the Gold Coast last month.

I have spoken again to Sarah and I understand you have spoken to Janet in Qld and none of us have any info on this.

Is it ok to give to the journalist, from You:

From Australia's Chief Medical Officer, Professor Brendan Murphy:

The Commonwealth has no details about this suspected case of CJD and we understand Queensland Health has also confirmed this with you.

Kay

Kay McNiece
Media Adviser
Dept of Health

From: News <News@health.gov.au>
Sent: Saturday, 9 February 2019 4:05 PM
To:
Cc: News <News@health.gov.au>
Subject: Response from the Department of Health [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Janelle,

Hi there. Thanks for your enquiry. Please find following some information from the department onbackground.

- The Commonwealth has no details about this suspected case of CJD as we understand Queensland Health has also confirmed this with you.
- There are always rumours about suspected CJD cases but there is no confirmation in this case. As for the details of the woman who has passed way, we would not have any details.

Kind regards,

Ben Houston
Media Unit
Department of Health

news@health.gov.au

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Hi Kay, Thanks so much for taking my call. We have been given a tipoff about a possible case of Mad Cow Disease, or CJD, recently on the Gold Coast, involving a woman in her 60s, who tragically died.

My questions are, given CJD cases are investigated nationally, has a woman been tested for CJD on the Gold Coast?

If yes, was it positive, and alternatively, did she have Mad Cow Disease?

If she didn't have CJD, do we know what the diagnosis was?

Also, did she die this year?

Kind regards, Janelle

--

JANELLE MILES
Journalist

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