Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service partner with Queensland Police Service, to launch Queensland’s first Hospital Watch.

A unique partnership in crime prevention will start at Nambour General Hospital from October 2017.

A first of its kind, the Hospital Watch program will bring Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) staff, Queensland Police (QPS) Neighbourhood Watch (NW), and the local community together with the aim to discourage any incidence of crime in and around the hospital.

Nambour General Hospital, Acting Director of Nursing and Facility Manager, Dave Johnson said it was hoped the program would foster community spirit and a sense of pride in the area.

“Hospital Watch will increase the community’s perceptions of safety, as well as reassuring our patients and staff,” Mr Johnson said.

Superintendent Darryl Johnson, District Officer of the Sunshine Coast said criminal offences often occurred in the surrounding areas of hospitals.

“This includes violence, property theft and anti-social behaviour,” he said.

“A significant amount of this criminal behaviour is preventable and can be deterred by the adoption and fostering of proactive partnerships with the community and by following simple crime prevention strategies such as placing valuables in a safe area and keeping a look out for suspicious behaviour.

“Hospital Watch is a Queensland first, with an aim is to minimise the incidence of preventable crime, by encouraging people to report crime and suspicious activity in the SCHHS facilities and in nearby car parks.”

To help support the program, people are encouraged to report any suspicious activity around Nambour General Hospital to Policelink on 131 444 or directly to the Hospital 07 5470 5146.

Media Opportunity
Thursday, 5 October 2017, 10am.
Nambour General Hospital, Front of Emergency Department Entrance.
ENDS

Media contact: Naomi Ford | 5202 0078 Follow us!