

Launceston General Hospital Upgrades – Accessibility for Patients

Ms FINLAY question to MINISTER for HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH and WELLBEING

I've been contacted by a Launceston constituent who's recovering from a serious leg break and is struggling to access parking at the Launceston General Hospital while upgrades are underway. They're attending essential follow-up appointments, but due to limited mobility, simply cannot walk the long distances. On too many occasions there has been no accessible parking available close enough to safely reach the hospital. The temporary parking arrangements are clearly not meeting the needs of patients. The shuttle service is unreliable, with no clear timetable, which makes it completely impractical for people managing pain, injury or time-critical appointments.

This is also having a broader impact. Constituents report that the drop-off area at Accident and Emergency is regularly being used as overflow parking for other parts of the hospital, creating real risks to Emergency access. Can you provide my constituents with an update on the LGH parking upgrades? Are they on track? When will that additional parking come online? What immediate steps will you take to ensure patients with limited mobility can safely access care in the meantime?