

connect . respect . excel

ANNUAL REPORT
2025-26 HIGHLIGHTS

West Moreton Health | Queensland Government

Acknowledgement of Country

West Moreton Health acknowledges the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul peoples, Traditional Custodians of the land. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community and we pay our respect to Elders past and present, and those who follow their path.

In the past year (2025-2026), West Moreton Health continued to meet the needs of one of Queensland's fastest-growing communities by expanding services, improving access to care and investing in the future. We welcomed hundreds of new staff, increased bed capacity, introduced innovative models of care, and achieved significant improvements in emergency department performance.

Key milestones included the commissioning of Ripley Specialised Inpatient Services, the expansion of bed capacity, and the introduction of technologies such as robotic-assisted surgery and a trial of AI-supported clinical documentation. Together, these initiatives are helping us deliver more timely, connected and patient-centred care closer to home.

These achievements reflect the dedication of our staff, volunteers, consumers, partners and community. Their commitment ensures we can continue improving health outcomes while responding to growing demand.

As we look ahead, we remain focused on delivering safe, high-quality and compassionate care today, while building the health service our community will need for generations to come.



Patient flow

Between January and June 2026, Ipswich Hospital Emergency Department improved patient off-stretcher times by 30 percentage points.

In January 2026, the average number of patients waiting longer than 24 hours in the Ipswich Hospital Emergency Department was 350, in June the average number waiting longer than 24 hours was four.

A new partnership with Mater Public Hospital Springfield expanded bed capacity.

Workforce



West Moreton Health's workforce grew by 579, primarily in frontline clinical and support roles to help meet increasing demand and prepare for future service expansion. Workforce pipeline programs also expanded through graduate programs, school-based traineeships and the Deadly Start program.

More than 600 staff were recognised for their long service to West Moreton Health.

Caring Better Together Survey

West Moreton Health moved from a 'strengthening' to a 'surging' culture in the Caring Better Together staff survey.

- ↗ Employee engagement increased from 44 per cent to 50 per cent
- ↗ 61 per cent of the workforce participated in the survey

Our vision
West Moreton, where everyone's health matters.

Our purpose
Creating healthier communities, through connected, compassionate care.

Our values
Connect.
Respect.
Excel.



A world-first research project in the Ipswich emergency department trialled the use of artificial intelligence. Pictured: Minna Grahvendy, Cade Grima, Christopher Hicks and Anton Cush.

$1 billion-plus Major Capital program continued

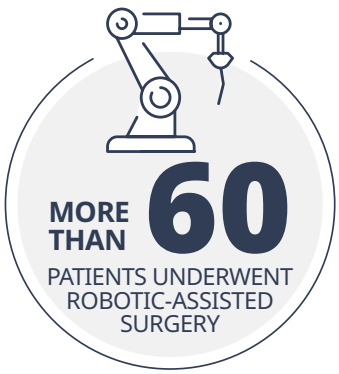
- ↗ 90 beds opened at the new Ripley Specialised Inpatient Services
- ↗ 46 beds opened at the new Ipswich Residential Rehabilitation and Withdrawal service
- ↗ 14 new beds opened at the Mental Health Acute Inpatient Service
- ↗ 200 new beds on track to open in 2028 at the Ipswich Hospital acute services building

Research

The launch of the *West Moreton Health Research Plan 2025–2029* set a clear direction for growing research capability, supporting collaboration and creating new opportunities for discovery and improvement.

- ↗ 55 active clinical trials
- ↗ 174 published journal articles
- ↗ $3.8 million in research grants

Innovation



The da Vinci Xi system launched at Ipswich Hospital to support minimally invasive surgery closer to home.

Digital transformation continued through expanded virtual care and telehealth services and access to specialist care also expanded through tele-oncology services at all four rural hospitals.



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TELEHEALTH OUTPATIENT SERVICE EVENTS DELIVERED

About the West Moreton region

West Moreton Health serves a diverse and growing region in south-east Queensland, covering Ipswich, Somerset, Lockyer Valley, and Scenic Rim. The area includes urban, rural, and semi-rural communities, with a mix of established towns and rapidly expanding suburbs. Our population is diverse in age, culture, and health needs, and is projected to continue growing over the coming decades. This dynamic region shapes the way we deliver healthcare, ensuring services are accessible, connected, and responsive to the needs of the communities we serve.

RAPIDLY INCREASING DEMAND

330,000+ population

serviced by our hospitals in Ipswich, Gatton, Laidley, Esk and Boonah and satellite centre at Ripley.



Nursing and midwifery graduates with executive Karyn Ehren.



Pieter Nieuwenhuizen was among the first rehabilitation patients to transfer to Ripley Specialised Inpatient Services. Pieter is supported by our staff Zach Buxton, Tony George and paramedic Lisa Taylor.



Our **health service**

- Hospital
- Health centre
- Mental health facility
- Oral health
- Community health
- Correctional health centre