

Springfield Scoop

Healthcare for the people of Greater Springfield

Issue 4 October 2024



Minister for Child Safety and Jordan MP Charis Mullen joined Mater Private Hospital Springfield General Manager Suzanne Hawksley on a tour of the new public hospital, under construction.

Bringing best in class care home to Springfield families

Mothers, babies and families across Greater Springfield will have world-class maternity services and paediatrics on their doorstep when their new public hospital opens in 2026.

On site recently with Mater Private Hospital Springfield General Manager Suzanne Hawksley, Minister for Child Safety and Jordan MP Charis Mullen announced the addition of paediatrics to the range of services that will be delivered at Mater Public Hospital Springfield.

Ms Mullen said there would be a 12-bed paediatric ward, bringing the total number of beds at the new hospital to 240, as well as dedicated space for paediatric emergency department presentations.

The new hospital will also provide Greater Springfield families with Mater Mothers' maternity services, including a Pregnancy Assessment Centre, six birth

suites including two birth pools, 16 maternity beds for public patients and 16 Special Care neonatal cots for babies who need additional care after birth.

Ms Hawksley said Mater's workforce planning for the new hospital was underway, with applicants encouraged to express their interest on the Careers Page of the Mater website.

Mater Public Hospital Springfield is the result of a landmark public-private partnership between Mater and the Queensland Government.

Join the Minister and Mater's project team on a tour of the hospital site by scanning here:



Welcome

It was a pleasure to welcome Queensland Minister for Child Safety, Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Multicultural Affairs Charis Mullen to tour the site of the new Mater Public Hospital Springfield, currently under construction.

With external building works reaching Level 6 of the nine-storey facility, and interior fit-outs starting to take place, the new hospital is well and truly taking shape for its 2026 opening.

Alongside construction, significant work is taking place behind the scenes to develop holistic, patient-centred care and contemporary healthcare services to the Greater Springfield community.

Our first Consumer Advisory Group met last month. One of the functions of the group is to inform the way we will engage with patients, families and visitors who come to the new hospital and to provide insights and feedback on responding to the diverse needs of the community we serve.

Our commitment to holistic, patient-centred care has never been stronger.

Mater Health Hub, Springfield was officially opened earlier this year, marking a milestone in community-based services for people living in this rapidly growing region. The purpose-built centre delivers allied healthcare services, specialist sessional suites and educational courses for school-leavers and career-changers.

A new six-week program for Springfield mums is currently being offered to guide new mothers and families through some of the challenges of early parenting.

Mater recognises the pressing need for local, high-quality healthcare and educational services in the Greater Springfield community, and it brings us great pride to deliver these.

Thank you for your continued support and collaboration.

I look forward to continuing to create a healthier future for our community together.

Suzanne Hawksley

General Manager
Mater Private
Hospital Springfield



07 3098 3900
springfield@mater.org.au



Find more
information on
Mater Cancer
Care services
here



Dr Susan Bell speaking at Mater's Breast Cancer Awareness Month "Lunch and Learn session"

Lunch and learn with Mater specialists

A free lunch and learn session was staged at Mater Health Hub, Springfield on Tuesday 1 October to launch Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Mater Health Hub specialist Dr Susan Bell provided guests with an overview of the disease, including the importance of early detection, family history and genetic predisposition.

Mater Cancer Care Centre Springfield breast care nurse Shiralee Bremmer provided practical tips on coping with

a diagnosis, providing emotional support to loved ones, and the role of cancer care coordinators in treatment.

And Mater Health Hub, Springfield dietitian Leigh Frazer revealed the value of different foods and dietary habits in reducing cancer risks, the importance of nutrition during treatment and the importance of having a wellness strategy.

More than 50 guests attended the event, hosted by Mater Foundation, which is encouraging people to host a Breasties Brunch in October to fundraise to support cancer care services in Greater Springfield.

Prostate tips and tricks for builders

Recognise the risks and take preventative action.

That was the message from Mater Private Hospital Springfield nurse Dee Kiernan in an address to 200 construction workers for Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in September.

The talk, 'Prostate Cancer: Early Detection Saves Lives - What Every Person Should Know' emphasised the importance of early detection and encouraged men to take action without feeling overwhelmed or embarrassed.

Ms Kiernan said early prostate cancer rarely demonstrated any symptoms, amplifying the importance of prevention through routine checks.



Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Australian men. Each year, 20,000 men are diagnosed while more than 3,000 men die from disease.

Ms Kiernan encouraged men over 50 and those aged over 40 with a family history of prostate cancer to have regular screenings with their GP.

Drone image of Mater Public Hospital Springfield under construction.



Mater Public Hospital Springfield construction update

The external structure of Mater's new hospital at Springfield has reached Level 6 of the nine-storey facility and the internal fit-out on Level 1 is already underway.

Level 1 of Mater Public Hospital Springfield will feature a new café as well as the Outpatients Department (OPD) where non-emergency medical care, diagnostic services, minor procedures, and follow-up care for patients will be delivered.

The recent on-site announcement by Minister for Child Safety and Jordan MP Charis Mullen to include a 12-bed paediatric ward in the new hospital takes the total number of public and private beds to 240 at the facility, set to open in 2026.

Key paediatric services will include acute care presentations, including chest infections, pneumonia, viral infections, vomiting, diarrhoea, epilepsy, diabetes, infant illnesses, breathing difficulties, croup and jaundice. In addition, the new public hospital's emergency department will include a dedicated space to see paediatric presentations and a Level 3 surgical service to support diagnoses such as appendicectomy and abscess drainage.

The new paediatrics service will complement maternity services to be provided in the new hospital by Mater Mothers—Australia's leading maternity services provider—including six birthing suites, two birthing pools, 16 special care neonatal cots and a Pregnancy Assessment Centre.

Alongside paediatrics and Mater Mothers' maternity services, the new hospital will provide a range of elective and emergency services across general surgery, ear, nose and throat, gastrointestinal endoscopy, gynaecology, ophthalmology, orthopaedics, plastic and reconstructive and urology specialties.

Prototype rooms are being built in Mater Public Hospital Brisbane to ensure any design faults are captured early and to demonstrate the end product in a replica form.

Over the course of the project, nine replica rooms will be created, including an emergency department patient bay, recovery and intensive care unit beds as well as a maternity ward bed and a neonatal bay in the Special Care nursery. Prototype rooms will be installed for a number of critical departments in the hospital to assist with design testing,

functionality assessment, feedback collection, patient experience evaluation, and training and simulation.



A total of **240** beds for public and private patients



12 inpatient **paediatric beds**



- Emergency Department
- Intensive Care Unit



Maternity and Birthing Services

- A Pregnancy Assessment Centre (PAC)
- Six birth suites including two birth pools
- 16 maternity beds for public patients
- 16 Special Care neonatal cots

The first Consumer Advisory Group for Mater Public Hospital Springfield has met, completing a formal orientation that included a tour of Mater Private Hospital Springfield.

Members were asked to provide insights into the best ways to engage with patients, and to provide feedback on the 'First 15 steps' which is a UK initiative to gather consumer views on their first steps into a hospital during which their perceptions are set.

The group ordered dinner from the room service menu to experience the food provided to inpatients at MPH. Meals are freshly prepared and able to be ordered to patients' convenience.

The Consumer Advisory Group will meet again in November.

Mater Health Hub Springfield

Mater Education Springfield celebrates first anniversary

This month Mater Education Springfield celebrates its first year since opening in October 2023.

The newest cohort of Diploma of Nursing students attended their orientation recently, bringing the total number of students undertaking studies at Springfield to more than 270.

The State Government's continued support of Mater Education through the fee-free TAFE initiative enables record numbers of school-leavers and career-changers to pursue a healthcare career in the local area, with Springfield's first cohort of Diploma of Nursing students set to graduate as qualified enrolled nurses in July 2025.

Other healthcare qualifications and programs delivered at Mater Health Hub, Springfield include Certificate III in Pathology Collection, Vocational Education and Training in Schools, our High School Health Adventure and Mater Mother's First Aid for Babies.



Fourth Trimester Essentials for new mums

Mater Health Hub, Springfield is hosting a six-week program designed to guide mums through life with their new baby.

The program includes information on breastfeeding, sleep, development and play ideas, postpartum recovery, maternal nutrition and mental wellbeing.

Each week, Mater's expert team will explore a new topic, delivering the latest research and evidence-based advice in a relaxed, interactive environment.

Mums will have the opportunity to ask questions, get tailored advice and support, and connect with other mums and babies.

**Program commences
Tuesday 29 October 2024.**

Register of Fourth
Trimester Essentials



Springfield First Aid for Babies

Are you a new parent, grandparent, carer or guardian of babies or toddlers? Gain confidence in emergency care by completing Mater Mothers' First Aid for Babies, available at Mater Health Hub, Springfield.

Endorsed by leading neonatal critical care specialists and paediatricians, the hands-on course covers a range of first aid fundamentals for infants and young children, including resuscitation.

The course is open to individuals and couples, with an exclusive discount for Mater Mothers' families.

Secure your place
and enrol now



Experienced neonatologist and general paediatrician Dr David Risson is now practising at Mater Health Hub, Springfield, providing comprehensive care for babies, infants and children to families in Greater Springfield.

Having completed his medical degree at The University of Queensland, Dr Risson trained at the Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane, Royal Brisbane Womens' Hospital and Mater Mother's Hospital at South Brisbane.

Dr Risson is currently accepting referrals at Springfield and can be contacted on



07 3199 3286.