



Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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GREEN LIGHT: \$251 MILLION FOR MAJOR REDEVELOPMENT OF SHELLHARBOUR HOSPITAL

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today announced a re-elected Baird Government will give the green light to the major redevelopment of Shellharbour Hospital with a \$251 million investment, if re-elected on March 28.

Mrs Skinner was joined at Shellharbour Hospital by Kiama MP Gareth Ward and Liberal candidate for Shellharbour Mark Jones to make the announcement while inspecting progress on the facility's \$6.7 million ambulatory care upgrade.

"The \$251 million redevelopment will expand emergency department capacity, double the operating theatre size, add an intensive care unit and provide for increased acute inpatient, surgical, aged care and rehabilitation beds, as well as expanded outpatient and primary/community health services," Mrs Skinner said.

"This commitment represents a new era for Shellharbour Hospital and will ensure patients receive world-class care in a world-class facility.

"Shellharbour is the fastest growing region in the Illawarra – it is vital this community has the health services it needs well into the future.

"This project is a priority for the Baird Government and work will get underway in our next term, if we are re-elected on March 28."

Mrs Skinner said Labor's Shellharbour Hospital promise is entirely undercooked and demonstrates it has no credibility when it comes to hospital redevelopments.

"Labor's paltry commitment to Shellharbour Hospital represents just 12 per cent of what we will deliver. It is an insult to the community and clinicians at this great facility," Mrs Skinner said.

Mr Ward said: "This funding marks a record investment in health services for the people of Shellharbour and will be a dream come true for clinical staff and the community.

"For years, I have been calling for a major upgrade of Shellharbour Hospital and I could not be prouder to deliver yet another major investment which will benefit my electorate and the southern Illawarra.

"Our commitment stands in stark contrast to what's on offer from Labor. If people want the full upgrade of Shellharbour Hospital – they need to support the Baird Government," Mr Ward said.

Mr Jones said: "This is a major investment and one which will revolutionise the way our community is cared for. Shellharbour Hospital has looked after our community for decades and now it's time for us to show it, and its great staff, some TLC.

“We have campaigned for this investment and as a result, patients will be able to access first-class care in a first-class facility and staff will be able to deliver their care in a workplace they can be proud of.”

The Baird Government has a proven record of delivering health infrastructure from one end of the state to the other. The \$251 million announcement made today joins a suite of other hospital upgrades, including:

- Armidale Hospital - \$60 million;
- Blacktown/Mt Druitt Hospital - \$400 million;
- Bowral Hospital - \$50 million;
- Broken Hill Hospital - \$30 million;
- Byron Central Hospital - \$89 million;
- Cooma Hospital - \$10 million;
- Concord Hospital - \$150 million;
- Coffs Harbour Hospital - \$156 million;
- Dubbo Hospital - \$150 million;
- Gosford Hospital - \$368 million;
- Goulburn Hospital - \$120 million;
- Hornsby-Ku-ring-gai Hospital - \$200 million;
- Inverell Hospital - \$30 million;
- John Hunter Children’s Hospital - \$25 million;
- Lismore Hospital - \$180 million;
- Macksville Hospital - \$50 million;
- New Maitland Hospital - \$400 million;
- Manning Hospital - \$20 million;
- Mudgee Hospital - \$60 million;
- New Northern Beaches Hospital - \$600 million;
- Port Macquarie Hospital - \$15 million;
- Prince of Wales Hospital - \$500 million;
- New Rouse Hill Hospital - \$300 million;
- Ryde Hospital - \$9 million;
- St George Hospital - \$307 million;
- Sutherland Hospital - \$62 million;
- The Tweed Hospital - \$48 million;
- Wagga Wagga Base Hospital - \$170 million;
- Westmead Hospital - \$900 million; and
- Wyong Hospital - \$200 million.

If re-elected, the Baird Government will make a record investment of more than \$5 billion in health infrastructure to make our health system the strongest in the country – which will result in total health infrastructure spend reaching almost \$10 billion over an eight year period.

Put simply, the Baird Government will spend more in eight years than Labor spent in the entire 16 years it was in government.

New hospital projects including the new Rouse Hill Hospital, the redevelopment of Campbelltown Hospital and an increase in paediatric capacity in South West Sydney will all be funded from the Rebuilding NSW Hospitals Fund and are on top of the planned \$5 billion infrastructure program, which includes the \$251 million investment made at Shellharbour Hospital today.

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