



# Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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Thursday 12 March 2015

#### **PATIENTS TO BENEFIT FROM \$10 MILLION BOOST FOR COOMA HOSPITAL**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Member for Monaro John Barilaro today announced a re-elected Baird Government will invest \$10 million in the redevelopment of Cooma Hospital.

Mrs Skinner said work will get underway in the next term of the Baird Government, if re-elected on March 28.

“This upgrade will be a game-changer for Cooma Hospital and will ensure local patients receive quality care well into the future,” Mrs Skinner said.

“The \$10 million investment will redevelop Cooma Hospital to enhance the emergency department, radiology services and the maternity ward, as well as fund the construction of a new ambulatory care centre.

“John Barilaro is a champion of Cooma Hospital and has consistently raised its wonderful work with me. This \$10 million commitment – in addition to the new \$1.75 million renal unit - is the result of his tireless advocacy on behalf of the hospital.”

Mr Barilaro said this major commitment to the future of Cooma Hospital is testament to the hard work of local staff.

“Cooma Hospital is at the very heart of our community and I’m pleased the Baird Government has heard my call and will invest further funding to improve this great facility,” Mr Barilaro said.

“This funding will greatly benefit patients but it will also ensure the dedicated doctors, nurses and staff at Cooma Hospital have a facility they can be proud of.

“I have no doubt this \$10 million investment in the redevelopment of Cooma Hospital will also act as a magnet to attract new quality staff to our area.”

If re-elected, the Baird Government will make a record investment of more than \$5 billion in infrastructure to make our health system the strongest in the country – which will result in total 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 \$10 million investment in Cooma Hospital announced today.

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