



# Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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Thursday 26 February 2015

#### **\$200 MILLION FOR NEXT STAGE OF HORNSBY KU-RING-GAI HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner was joined today by Member for Hornsby Matt Kean and Liberal candidate for Ku-ring-gai Alister Henskens to announce a \$200 million commitment to the next stage of the major redevelopment of Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital.

Mrs Skinner said work on Stage 2 - a multi-storey clinical services building - will begin if the Baird Government is re-elected on March 28.

Mrs Skinner made the announcement while touring the hospital's new STAR building - the centrepiece of the \$120 million Stage 1 redevelopment.

During the tour they inspected prototype rooms in an inpatient ward and met staff in the Health Information Services department - the first department to move into the new STAR building.

"What a great day for a great hospital which has always provided outstanding care to patients, even as the infrastructure has aged and grown tired," Mrs Skinner said.

"The STAR building is exceptional, a state-of-the-art building dedicated to surgical services.

"Today I share the excitement of staff and patients as they begin to occupy this wonderful \$120 million building - and I am thrilled to announce a re-elected Baird Government will invest a further \$200 million in Stage 2."

The five-storey STAR building - which represents Surgical, Theatres, Anaesthetic and Recovery - will be fully operational in September. It houses:

- three 28-bed inpatient units
- eight new operating theatres (including one dedicated endoscopy procedure room);
- sterilising services department;
- pathology services;
- kitchens;
- new supply and loading dock
- Health Information Services department (formerly known as Medical Records).

"I am delighted the Health Information Services team has been implementing document imaging, whereby all patient records will become digitally available - this is the future of health," Mrs Skinner said.

Planning for Stage 2 of the hospital redevelopment is well underway. Stage 2, which will be physically linked to the STAR building, will include:

- a major upgrade to the emergency department;
- extra inpatient beds;
- paediatric, imaging and ambulatory care services.

Mr Kean said announcing funding for Stage 2 while touring Stage 1 was new cause for celebration.

“For years, under Labor, the Hornsby community’s pleas for a hospital upgrade fell on deaf ears,” Mr Kean said.

“I am proud the Baird Government has delivered on its promise to upgrade Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital, to ensure the highest quality patient care for years to come.”

Mr Henskens said: “This is tremendous news for Ku-ring-gai residents - the Baird Government has a proven record of delivering better health infrastructure and better health care to the people of NSW.”

**MEDIA:**

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