



# **Jillian Skinner MP**

## **Minister for Health**

## **Minister for Medical Research**

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Tuesday 3 March 2015

#### **MOLONG SET FOR \$2.5 MILLION AMBULANCE STATION UPGRADE**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Member for Orange Andrew Gee today announced \$2.5 million for a new ambulance station at Molong.

Mrs Skinner said work on the new station will begin in the next term of the Baird Government if re-elected on March 28.

“The NSW Government is committed to supporting paramedics and providing them with the first-class resources they need to deliver their first-class care,” Mrs Skinner said.

“Molong ambulance station has been serving its community since 1989 and this funding will ensure local paramedics have a modern base from which to deliver their life-saving care.

“This \$2.5 million commitment forms part of a rural and regional ambulance infrastructure strategy which is seeing the upgrade of stations right across the state.

“Planning is underway to determine the scope of the development.

Mrs Skinner said today’s announcement forms part of a program which is upgrading rural and regional ambulance stations across the state, including Berry, Basin View, Wagga Wagga and Bathurst.

“During its 16 years in government, Labor did nothing to future-proof our ambulance services. By contrast, the Baird Government will continue to invest in NSW Ambulance infrastructure and our professional paramedics, who deliver expert, first-class care for patients.”

Mr Gee said the Baird Government is getting on with the job of delivering enhanced health services for the people of Orange and beyond.

“Our first term of government has seen a huge investment to enhance local health services, especially those provided by paramedics,” Mr Gee said.

“We’ve delivered 24-7 aeromedical care for patients and today’s announcement will ensure local paramedics have the very best resources at their fingertips.

“Paramedics are among the most trusted professionals in our community and they deserve a station which reflects the top-class, extraordinary work they do.”

In the last year alone, the NSW Government has increased the NSW Ambulance budget by \$30 million to a record \$753 million. Paramedic numbers have increased by 205 staff to 3,435 paramedics since the March 2011 election (full-time equivalent as at June 2014).

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