



Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health

Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 21 January 2015

HISTORIC SOD TURN MARKS START OF SUTHERLAND HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today turned the first sod of earth for the start of the redevelopment of Sutherland Hospital.

Mrs Skinner was joined by Member for Cronulla Mark Speakman, Member for Heathcote Lee Evans and Liberal candidate for Miranda Eleni Petinos as she manned a shovel at the site of a new ground-level car park.

The car park is being relocated from a site adjacent to the existing emergency department to allow the redevelopment to commence. This will ensure there is no loss of car parking during the construction phase.

The 2014/15 NSW Budget provided \$2.2 million to commence the redevelopment of Sutherland Hospital, which will include:

- a new and expanded emergency department with 44 treatment bays, including three resuscitation bays;
- 60 new acute inpatient beds (including six high dependency/intensive care beds);
- storage space for theatres to improve efficiencies.

“This is an historic day for Sutherland Hospital, marking the start of the redevelopment which will cost in excess of \$60 million,” Mrs Skinner said.

“The NSW Liberals & Nationals have spent almost \$5 billion to rebuild hospitals over the last four years and I am delighted Sutherland Hospital is part of this building boom. It will complement the major redevelopment which is under planning at St George Hospital.”

Mr Speakman said the official start of early works is a significant milestone in the redevelopment of Sutherland Hospital.

“I am delighted that patients and staff will share the benefits of this long-awaited redevelopment. The NSW Government will spend in excess of \$60 million on this redevelopment, which will deliver a bigger, better emergency department and 60 extra beds, among other things,” Mr Speakman said.

Mr Evans said: “The people of Sutherland Shire and the hardworking staff of this hospital have waited a long time for this redevelopment. I am proud to be a member of a Government which is getting on with the job of rebuilding hospitals across the state.”

In August last year, Mrs Skinner was joined by Premier Mike Baird to officially open the \$10 million multi-storey car park at the rear of the Sutherland Hospital site.

MEDIA: Liz Hannan - 0427 232 671