



# Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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### **\$368 MILLION REDEVELOPMENT OF GOSFORD HOSPITAL KICKS OFF**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Gosford MP Chris Holstein today visited Gosford Hospital to mark the start of the facility's much-anticipated \$368 million major upgrade.

Mrs Skinner and Mr Holstein, who were joined by Central Coast Liberal candidates Michael Sharpe (The Entrance) and Adam Crouch (Terrigal), also launched a fly-through and schematic designs of the redevelopment.

"The sheer size and scope of the Gosford Hospital should not be underestimated. This is a mammoth multi-million dollar project and one which will transform this facility and the care it provides to the community," Mrs Skinner said.

"Health Infrastructure has awarded Donnelly Constructions the tender for the hospital project's early works and I'm pleased to say they are now underway.

"The redevelopment of Gosford Hospital will deliver a new emergency department, new intensive care unit, an expanded high dependency unit, significantly expanded and enhanced operating theatre capacity and new maternity services, including beds, birthing and a special care nursery."

Other enhancements include:

- New medical imaging and nuclear medicine services;
- Significantly expanded cancer services;
- New ambulatory care services;
- New cardio-vascular services;
- Additional inpatient beds for acute and sub-acute services;
- Clinical and non-clinical support services;
- Extra car parking.

Main works for the upgrade of Gosford Hospital are scheduled to start later this year. The \$368 million project is anticipated to be complete in 2019.

Minister for the Central Coast Rob Stokes said: "The Baird Government is committed to rebuilding Gosford hospital to ensure its hard working staff can deliver their life-saving care in a first-class facility."

Mr Holstein said the redevelopment of Gosford Hospital is a dream come true for clinicians and the community.

"Gosford Hospital has cared for our community for decades - it is a fantastic facility with caring and compassionate staff and I'm pleased the Liberals & Nationals are digging deep

to build our valued nurses, doctors and support staff a modern workplace,” Mr Holstein said.

“The start of early works demonstrates the NSW Liberals & Nationals are getting on with the job of delivering a new hospital for Gosford - something Labor failed to produce for 16 years.

“This is an exciting project which will change the way health care is provided in our community,” Mr Holstein said.

While on the Central Coast, Mrs Skinner also visited the Long Jetty Healthcare Centre to inspect progress on the new \$3.5 million renal dialysis unit project, which is expected to be complete in September.

“The new satellite dialysis unit will help meet current demand, reducing pressure on the three existing dialysis units located at Gosford Hospital and Lakehaven Community Health Centre while providing capacity to meet future demand.

“This is a facility that has been long called for by the community and I’m pleased the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is delivering it to ensure patients have access to dialysis services closer to home,” Mrs Skinner said.

**The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government record of delivery on the Central Coast:**

- Recruited an additional 315 FTE nurses to work in Central Coast hospitals since the election;
- Central Coast Local Health District hospitals performed 98 per cent of elective surgeries on time (July-Sept 2014) compared to 92 per cent under Labor (July-Sept 2010).
- Eight per cent increase in patients leaving Central Coast hospital emergency departments in four hours (59 per cent in July-Sept 2014 vs 51 per cent in July-Sept 2010).
- Boosted the Central Coast Local Health District budget this year by 6.4 per cent to a record \$693 million. The Central Coast has had one of the highest budget increases among the state’s 15 Local Health Districts.
- Invested \$2.7 million this year to start work on the \$368 million Gosford Hospital upgrade;
- Committed \$1.3 million to plan the major redevelopment at Wyong Hospital;
- Allocated \$3.5 million to fund a 20-chair satellite renal dialysis unit at Long Jetty Health Care Centre;
- Opened the \$38.6 million Central Coast Cancer Centre - a first for the region;
- Opened the \$11.6 million Woy Woy Hospital rehabilitation unit;
- Started work on a new short stay unit for Gosford Hospital and a new short stay unit and urgent care centre at Wyong Hospital;
- Committed \$120 million over four years to enable Locals Health Districts, including the Central Coast, to implement integrated care models. The Central Coast Local Health District has been nominated as an integrated care demonstrator site.

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