



# **Jillian Skinner MP**

## **Minister for Health**

## **Minister for Medical Research**

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Wednesday 11 February 2015

#### **NEW AMBULANCE STATION FOR WAGGA WAGGA**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Wagga Wagga MP Daryl Maguire today announced the Baird Government will invest \$4.4 million in a new ambulance station for Wagga Wagga.

Mrs Skinner said the NSW Government is committed to supporting paramedics in the life-changing and life-saving care they provide.

“Wagga Wagga’s current ambulance station is 87 years old and today’s announcement will ensure local paramedics have the modern resources they need and deserve,” Mrs Skinner said.

“This \$4.4 million investment underlines the commitment of the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government to build ambulance stations of the future to improve response times.

“Details about the new site of the station are currently being finalised and an announcement about its location will be made in due course. Construction is expected to begin this year.

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

Mr Maguire said a new station will be a considerable improvement on the current facility.

“I have the utmost respect for our local paramedics, who do an extraordinary job in what can be confronting circumstances,” Mr Maguire said.

“It’s clear a new ambulance station is needed for Wagga Wagga and I look forward to marking more milestones on this project, which I know will benefit staff greatly.

“Paramedics are our most trusted profession and it is not difficult to understand why. I’m pleased the NSW Liberals & Nationals will provide them with a new base from which to deliver their compassionate care.

“The Baird Government is getting on with the job of delivering enhanced health services for Wagga Wagga.”

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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