



# The Hon Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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23 February, 2012

#### **SUCCESSFUL TENDERER FOR PORT MACQUARIE HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT**

National Buildplan Group has been appointed to carry out the early works in preparation for the \$110 million Port Macquarie Expansion project, the Minister for Health, Jillian Skinner, and the Member for Port Macquarie, Leslie Williams, said today.

The NSW State Government has contributed \$14 million towards the redevelopment of the Port Macquarie Base Hospital. This has been complemented by a Federal contribution of \$96 million.

Early works associated with the expansion of the Port Macquarie Base Hospital will be underway next month. They will include a minimum of 200 additional car parks, site preparation and in-ground service diversions.

Main works on the Expansion project are expected to commence in early next year with completion expected in 2015.

Mrs Skinner said it was positive to see important progress being made.

"This expansion will provide more services for the Mid North Coast, which is one of the fastest growing areas in NSW and has a large aging population," Mrs Skinner said.

"The Port Macquarie Base Hospital expansion will provide improved access to a wider range of services, such as the Cardiac Catheterisation Laboratory; an increased surgical capacity and patient beds, and an expanded Emergency Department," she said.

The Member for Port Macquarie, Leslie Williams, said the expansion will be a huge benefit to our local community.

"Patients and medical staff will see major improvements in the standard of health care services in the Hastings," Mrs Williams said.

Stewart Dowrick, Chief Executive, Mid North Coast Local Health District welcomed today's announcement.

"The expansion project will provide improved and additional services for the Mid North Coast and I am pleased to see our fast growing local region benefiting from the enhanced health services it needs and deserves." he said.

Although there may be some temporary changes in access to the current car parking at the hospital, all health services will be provided as normal.