



The Hon Andrew Stoner
Deputy Premier of NSW
Minister for Regional
Infrastructure and Services

The Hon Jillian Skinner
Minister for Health
Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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WORK BEGINS ON PORT MACQUARIE BASE HOSPITAL

NSW Deputy Premier and Member for Oxley Andrew Stoner, Minister for Health Jillian Skinner, and Member for Port Macquarie Leslie Williams announced that early works would begin today on the \$110 million Port Macquarie Base Hospital redevelopment.

The \$110 million project is a joint initiative by the NSW (\$14m) and Federal Governments (\$96m).

The expansion will provide increased capacity, a greater range of services and improved facilities for patients – including a new Cardiac Catheterisation Laboratory; and increased capacity for elective surgery and Emergency Department admissions.

The early works will include around 200 extra car parks on the hospital site.

Mr Stoner said the commencement of work would be a relief for Mid North Coast communities.

“Mid North Coast residents have long deserved a bigger hospital that is better equipped to service the region’s growing population and today is an important milestone towards achieving that,” Mr Stoner said.

“Investing in hospitals right across regional NSW is a priority of the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government.”

The Port Macquarie Base Hospital Expansion Project includes:

- New and refurbished Emergency Department including new ED outpatient and ambulance entry, net increase of 13 acute treatment bays, separate area for Paediatric patients, and relocation of the Express Community Care Clinic;
- An 8 bed Emergency Medical Unit for short stay admissions (collocated with the Emergency Department);
- A new 7 theatre operating suite to replace the existing 4 theatres;
- A new 32 bay Recovery Unit;
- A new Cardiac Catheterisation Laboratory;
- A new 16 bed Intensive Care and High Dependency Unit (currently 8 beds)
- A new 8 bed Coronary Care Unit (currently 4 beds);
- A new 30 bed medical inpatient ward;
- An additional 12 surgical beds (refurbishment of Paediatric Ward);
- Relocation of the 15 bed Paediatric Ward into new facilities; and
- A new and larger Central Sterilizing Services Department.

Minister Skinner said the Port Macquarie expansion was part of the NSW Government's commitment to increase health services in regional areas.

"This exciting project is part of our record \$4.7 billion in health infrastructure works across the state," Minister Skinner said.

"I am pleased to see works start on this fantastic project from which the Port Macquarie region will greatly benefit," she said.

Member for Port Macquarie Leslie Williams said it was a major step forward in the delivery of improved health services for the people of the Hastings.

"As someone who has worked in this hospital, I know how desperately this upgrade is needed by both the health professionals and the community," Mrs Williams said.

"I congratulate the NSW and Federal Governments for their collaboration and I look forward to keeping the community updated on this exciting project for our region," she said.

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 ageing population.

The project will also include space for future service expansion.

The Planning Application for the project has been submitted to Department of Planning and Infrastructure and is currently on Public Exhibition until Friday 6 April 2012.

http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=4510

Construction on the new facility is expected to commence in early 2013 with completion expected in 2015.