



The Hon Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

17 April, 2012

A NEW AMBULANCE STATION FOR CESSNOCK

The Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research, Jillian Skinner, today officially opened the new \$1.69 million Cessnock Ambulance Station.

The NSW Government's commitment has provided the community with a more modern and better equipped ambulance station which caters for 15 paramedics who provide 24 hour coverage, and a fleet of four ambulances with capabilities to expand if required.

Minister Skinner said it was great news for local paramedics and the community.

"Given Cessnock paramedics are responding to over 4000 incidents every year and provide a vital link within the health system chain, it's positive they now have a new station from which to work," Mrs Skinner said.

"The project demonstrates the NSW Government's commitment to provide the people of NSW with optimal pre-hospital care," she said.

"The provision of pre-hospital care is quite often lifesaving and ensures the patient's seamless progression into the hospital system and their ultimate rehabilitation and recovery."

The new station maintains the sustainability benchmark set by the Ambulance Service of NSW with design and planning focussed on minimising heat loads and energy costs, rainwater harvesting for toilets and external washing of vehicles and external taps for the garden. The station also uses energy management initiatives such as solar hot water and solar power generation.

The station also boasts:

- > modern staff room;
- > training/meeting room;
- > staff kitchen and lounge;
- > office accommodation;
- > male and female locker restroom facilities;
- > secure parking and an ambulance washing bay; and
- > onsite mechanical hoist for mobile servicing of vehicles.

Cessnock paramedics, both past and present, have proudly served the community and visitors of Cessnock and surrounding suburbs for over 59 years.