



The Hon Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

16 May, 2012

MAJOR MILSTONE IN WAGGA WAGGA HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT

The Minister for Health, Jillian Skinner, and the Member for Wagga Wagga, Daryl Maguire, today welcomed the completion of the new carpark at Wagga Wagga Base Hospital, which signals the start of the main capital works for the \$282 million redevelopment.

The new carpark, with a total of 137 new car spaces, follows the opening of the first 79 spaces last month.

Mrs Skinner said this was a great milestone in this significant redevelopment.

“The first phase of the redevelopment will be the new 50-bed mental health unit which is due to be operational by the middle of next year,” Mrs Skinner said.

“Construction will be phased to ensure hospital services continue throughout the redevelopment,” she said.

The final stage of the new carpark was opened today by Mr Maguire.

“I welcome the opening of the carpark today and am pleased to see significant progress in this exciting project,” Mr Maguire said.

“Approval of the Planning Application is expected shortly by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, which will allow construction of the mental health unit to begin,” he said.

The new hospital will provide the platform for new models of care focussed on the needs of patients including:

- Increased capacity for mental health beds; and additional acute overnight inpatient capacity;
- Expanded emergency department;
- New Renal facility;
- Expanded Operating Theatre Suite including Recovery capacity;
- Cardiac Catheterisation Laboratory & angiography suite;
- Women’s and Children’s inpatient unit additional Birthing Suites;
- Expansion of the Central Sterilising Services Department;
- Expanded Medical Imaging Department, and
- Additional car parking.

Hospital staff, management, patients and visitors will celebrate the opening with a barbecue at the carpark between noon and 2pm today.