



# **Jillian Skinner MP**

## **Minister for Health**

## **Minister for Medical Research**

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Friday, 16 November 2012

#### **MORE MILESTONES FOR \$110M UPGRADE OF PORT MACQUARIE HOSPITAL**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner and the Member for Port Macquarie, Leslie Williams, today congratulated the successful tenderer for the expansion of Port Macquarie Hospital and marked the start of works on-site.

Mrs Skinner said Watpac Construction (NSW) Pty Ltd and National Buildplan Group Pty Ltd have been awarded the tender for the main works of the \$110 million project.

“This is an exciting time for the Port Macquarie project with another milestone being reached to deliver a bigger and better equipped hospital for communities on the mid-north coast,” Mrs Skinner said.

“This project is a perfect example of the NSW Government’s commitment to expand and improve health services in our regions.”

Mrs Williams said the redevelopment will bring many benefits for local patients, clinicians and hospital staff.

“This expansion will see increased treatment capacity at the hospital with a greater range of services and improved facilities,” Mrs Williams said.

“It’s rewarding to see progress on the hospital and hear how these works are boosting morale for patients, staff and the wider community.

“This expansion will provide more services for the mid-north coast - one of the fastest growing areas in NSW and with an ageing population.”

Early works on the site have been underway since March 2012. These include additional car parking of around 200 spaces which are now in use, as well as bulk excavation and piling in preparation for the main building works. Main works have just commenced.

The \$110 million project is jointly funded by the NSW and Federal Governments. The NSW Government has contributed \$14 million and \$96 million has been provided by the Federal Government through the Health and Hospitals Fund.

Federal Minister for Health Tanya Plibersek welcomed the announcement of the successful tenderer.

"The Commonwealth is pleased to contribute \$96 million to the hospital rebuild, ensuring that the people of Port Macquarie have access to better health services."

The Port Macquarie Base Hospital Expansion Project includes:

- A new and expanded emergency department supporting a range of clinical redesign service models, supported by an eight bed emergency medical unit for short stay admissions;
- A new and expanded operating theatre block, with space to expand when required;
- A new and expanded peri-operative unit to support the operating theatre and new day procedure suite;
- A new cardiac catheterisation laboratory;
- A new purpose-built 'hot floor' critical care unit for intensive care and high dependency beds, and dedicated coronary care unit;
- A new 30-bed medical inpatient ward;
- An additional 12 surgical beds;
- Relocation of the paediatric ward into new facilities; and
- A new and larger central sterilizing services department.