



# Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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Tuesday, 11 December 2012

#### MINISTER VISITS CASINO HOSPITAL

Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Member for Clarence Chris Gulaptis today visited Casino Hospital to meet with staff and inspect progress on upgrade works.

Mrs Skinner said the \$300,000 upgrade works have been a welcome boost for local patients, clinicians and hospital staff.

“The NSW Government is committed to improving health services in regional communities and I am happy to see these improvements have been made before the busy Christmas period,” Mrs Skinner said.

The upgrades to Casino Hospital include:

- An expansion of the operating theatre recovery unit
- The addition of three new beds to the medical ward
- The relocation of monitored beds
- The creation of onsite career medical officer (CMO) accommodation

“The recovery unit’s second stage recovery area has expanded from two to three beds and three chairs, allowing more patients to return home directly from the recovery unit.

“It’s wonderful to be in Casino to see just how these upgrade works are going to benefit local patients, staff and the wider community.

“It has also been rewarding to meet the hospital staff, who are to be commended for the work they do and the many benefits they deliver for patients.”

Mr Gulaptis said the additional three beds in the medical ward will assist the hospital to meet peak patient demand.

“We’ve seen some very busy periods at the hospital this year so these additional beds will assist both patient flow and care.

“The creation of onsite accommodation will also make locum CMOs more readily available to hospital nursing staff in the event that they are required urgently. It will no doubt go a long way to attracting hospital staff to Casino.

“It’s great to have the minister here today, visiting our hospital and seeing just how these upgrades will benefit the community.”