



Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW GOVERNMENT DELIVERS AMBULANCE REFORM

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today released the NSW Government reform plan for NSW Ambulance.

The reform plan has been developed in response to an independent strategic review into NSW Ambulance.

“The independent review identified a number of key improvement areas at NSW Ambulance and the NSW Government reform plan will immediately address these areas of concern,” Mrs Skinner said.

“What we will deliver as part of this reform package is a world-class ambulance service, which will meet the needs of patients across the state well into the future.”

The reform plan focuses on five key strategic directions:

- Integrating NSW Ambulance into the broader health system;
- Separating non-emergency patient transport (NEPT) from urgent medical retrieval patient services so that NSW Ambulance is able to focus on its core role – attending to emergencies;
- Developing new models of care and investing in new providers to effectively manage demand and response times, reduce paramedic fatigue and improve the operating costs of NSW Ambulance;
- Ensuring that NSW Ambulance has effective infrastructure and a funding model that will ensure financial sustainability in the future;
- Strengthening the leadership, workforce and governance structure of NSW Ambulance and embracing the CORE values of Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment.

“Under the former Labor Government, NSW Ambulance was the subject of countless reviews which led to nothing. The fact is Labor sat on its hands when it came to reforming NSW Ambulance.

“The NSW Government is committed to enriching the Ambulance Service of NSW to ensure patients across the state are receiving the best and swiftest treatment and care,” Mrs Skinner said.

“We now have a clear reform plan for NSW Ambulance which will guide us forward to achieve the best for our state’s patients as well as paramedics and Ambulance staff.

“NSW Ambulance will lead the implementation of reforms, with support from NSW Health and other key stakeholders.

“Our reform plan will drive NSW Ambulance to get on with the job of providing critical care services for the people of this state in a more effective and efficient manner.

“The NSW Government also initiated a review into the state’s aeromedical services to ensure that patient needs are being met and that taxpayers are getting value for money when it comes to these contracted services.

“The aeromedical (rotary wing) retrieval service review is still underway. Consultation with key stakeholders will conclude in February to assist the NSW Government to formulate its response,” Mrs Skinner said.

For more information on the NSW Government reform plan for NSW Ambulance please visit: www.health.nsw.gov.au/about/nswhealth/Pages/asnw_review.aspx