



# Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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Tuesday, 11 June 2013

#### **\$11.6M NEW REHAB UNIT OFFICIALLY OPENED AT WOY WOY HOSPITAL**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today joined Member for Gosford Chris Holstein to officially open Woy Woy Hospital's new \$11.6 million 30-bed Rehabilitation Unit.

The facility is joint-funded with the NSW Government investing \$5 million into the project and the Australian Government, under the COAG New Subacute Beds Guarantee contributing \$6.6 million.

Mrs Skinner said she was pleased to join Mr Holstein to deliver on their pre-election commitment to restore rehabilitation services to Woy Woy Hospital, which were relocated to Wyong Hospital in 2008.

"It is with great excitement that I can be here today to celebrate the fulfilment of a pre-election commitment to provide enhanced rehabilitative care for patients on the Central Coast.

"It's no secret that this area has a growing and ageing population and to meet this demand we must continue to invest in these services to deliver quality care to the community," Mrs Skinner said.

The new unit comprises 30 patient beds including two inpatient rooms, multiple courtyard therapy areas, a gymnasium and a dining room that includes a self-serve beverage bay.

The facility also features new kitchen areas, staff facilities, linen holding areas and waste collection facilities as well as additional parking.

Mr Holstein said he was proud to deliver much-needed services for Woy Woy and Central Coast communities.

"The NSW Government is delivering on the commitments it has made to the community and our new rehabilitation unit is a wonderful example of this," Mr Holstein said.

"The Rehabilitation Unit is designed to provide support for patients including coordinated medical, psychological and rehabilitative care tailored to individual needs.

"We want to see these patients recover so that they are able to return to the

“Provision has also been made for bariatric patients with a specially designed room with a ceiling mounted hoist that also provides access to the ensuite, helping to ensure the safety of both patients and staff,” Mr Holstein said.

Also participating in the official ribbon cutting ceremony were Federal Member for Robertson Deborah O’Neill, community representatives including Woy Woy Hospital Auxiliary President Phyllis Thomas, President of the Woy Woy Hospital Alliance Ivan Kinny, as well as Central Coast Local Health District Board Chair Paul Tonkin.