



# Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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Wednesday 6 November 2013

#### **NSW GOVERNMENT COMMITS \$1 MILLION TO PLAN WESTMEAD HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today announced \$1 million to plan the first stage of the major redevelopment of Westmead Hospital.

Mrs Skinner was joined for the announcement at Westmead Hospital by Member for Parramatta Dr Geoff Lee and Member for Granville Tony Issa.

“The NSW Liberal & Nationals Government is determined to upgrade the ageing hospital infrastructure we inherited after 16 years of Labor neglect,” Mrs Skinner said.

“In July, I was proud to officially open the \$5 million upgrade to the emergency department at Westmead Hospital.

“Now begins the process of planning for a major redevelopment of this great hospital, to better serve the growing communities of western Sydney, now and into the future.”

It is expected the planned first stage of the major redevelopment of Westmead Hospital would co-locate all complex and critical care services into a multi-storey comprehensive care centre to improve the treatment of critically ill emergency patients, trauma and surgical patients.

This planned centre would include up to 12 state-of-the-art operating theatres, extra inpatient beds and further expansion of the emergency department.

“The redevelopment of Westmead Hospital is the number one priority of the Western Sydney Local Health District Asset Strategic Plan,” Mrs Skinner said.

“The Local Health District will determine the exact nature of the redevelopment, based on the future clinical needs of Westmead Hospital.

“Westmead Hospital staff, clinicians and management will be deeply involved in the planning process.”

Mrs Skinner said the redevelopment of Westmead Hospital would add to current hospital infrastructure projects underway in western Sydney, which include:

- **\$324 million** upgrade to Blacktown Mt Druitt Hospital
- **\$139 million** redevelopment of Campbelltown Hospital, including an upgrade to the emergency department.
- completion of the **\$139 million** expansion of Nepean Hospital

Member for Parramatta Dr Geoff Lee said he is delighted the NSW Government has committed \$1 million to plan the future of Westmead Hospital.

“My commitment to Westmead Hospital has been long-standing, which is why I was thrilled to join Minister Skinner today for this important funding announcement,” Dr Lee said.

“Westmead Hospital is at the very heart of western Sydney, which is why it is so important we get the planning right to ensure we build the hospital our community expects and deserves.”

Member for Granville Tony Issa said: “Today’s funding announcement is the next vital step on the journey towards building a world-class hospital to better serve our growing community.

“I am proud to be a member of a Government which is so committed to upgrading our hospitals and delivering the highest standard of clinical care.”

Planning for the redevelopment of Westmead Hospital will commence early next year. It is anticipated the first stage of planning will be finalised by late 2014.