



# Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Thursday, 19 December 2013

#### **NSW GOVERNMENT COMMITS \$600,000 TO PLAN NEXT STAGE OF DUBBO REDEVELOPMENT**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Member for Dubbo Troy Grant today announced \$600,000 to progress planning for the next stages of the Dubbo Hospital redevelopment.

Mrs Skinner said the next redevelopment stage will follow on from the current \$79.8 million upgrade to the hospital.

“The redevelopment of Dubbo Hospital has always been a priority for the NSW Liberals & Nationals,” Mrs Skinner said.

“The very first hospital I visited as Health Minister was Dubbo and I’ve been back many times since to see progress on the \$79.8 million redevelopment.

“Our investment in health at Dubbo already represents one the biggest hospital redevelopments in regional NSW. I’m pleased we’re now building on this with further funding to plan the expansion of inpatient, paediatric and support services.

“I know the community joins me in my wish to see this hospital meet the health needs of the Western Plains for decades to come. Planning money is vital to make this happen.”

Mr Grant welcomed the news of further funding to plan enhancements at Dubbo Hospital.

“I made my commitments to the people of Dubbo loud and clear,” Mr Grant said.

“For almost two decades our community was left high and dry by Labor – rebuilds were promised and never delivered. Very soon the intricate planning for the next vital stage will start.

“The NSW Government is getting on with the job of redeveloping Dubbo Hospital to ensure local patients can access quality care, closer to home.

The planning process will involve consultation with local staff, clinicians and management to identify the key clinical priorities.

The redevelopment of Dubbo Hospital will accommodate the redevelopment and

The Western NSW Local Health District Board will determine details of the development based on future clinical needs of Dubbo Hospital following advice from the local consultation carried.

Mrs Skinner said planning will commence in early 2014 and it is anticipated that its first stage will be finalised by late 2014.

“The upgrade already being undertaken at Dubbo Hospital is unprecedented and local health care can only continue to improve with the support of the NSW Government,” Mrs Skinner said.

The \$79.8 million redevelopment of Dubbo Hospital is jointly funded with the NSW Government providing \$72.7 million and the Federal Government contributing \$7.1 million. It will deliver:

- New operating theatres;
- Day-only and extended day only ward for surgical services;
- Inpatient ward and birthing suite for maternity services;
- A Special Care Nursery;
- Upgraded renal dialysis unit;
- A central sterilisation department; and
- Refurbished main hospital entry and upgraded infrastructure, including car parking, to support the above clinical services.

The project is scheduled for completion in late-2015.