



# Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

---

### MEDIA RELEASE

---

Tuesday 23 September 2014

#### **EARLY WORKS BEGIN FOR NEW BYRON CENTRAL HOSPITAL**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Ballina MP Don Page today welcomed news the early works contract has been awarded to begin construction of the new Byron Central Hospital.

Mrs Skinner said Health Infrastructure has awarded the early works contract for the project, anticipated to be valued at more than \$80 million, to Brookfield Multiplex.

“The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is getting on with the job of delivering the new Byron Central Hospital,” Mrs Skinner said.

“Brookfield Multiplex has been appointed to complete the detailed design process and undertake enabling works at the Ewingsdale site, which is set to begin in the coming weeks.

“The NSW Government is committed to enhancing rural and regional health care and the new Byron Central Hospital will be a state-of-the-art hub for health services in this area.

“This is about providing quality care closer to home and I’m pleased to see work is set to commence on this vital project.”

Mr Page said the NSW Government committed \$1.5 million in the 2014/15 Budget for planning and early works to commence on the new hospital.

“I could not be more pleased to see work about to start on the new Byron Central Hospital,” Mr Page said.

“Main works construction is set to begin in 2015 and soon our community will see this new facility rising from the ground.

“This new facility has been a labour of love for myself and the community and I’m proud the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is pushing ahead to build it. I join the community in their excitement to witness work starting on this long-awaited project.”

The project will enhance services through a purpose-built facility which will include:

- 24-hour accident and emergency services;
- Overnight inpatient beds;
- A low-risk maternity service;
- X-ray and medical imaging services;
- A new 20-bed non-acute mental health unit;

- Chemotherapy service.

The Byron Central Hospital project team is undertaking a market sounding process to determine whether there is interest from private providers to deliver surgical services at the facility.

Health Infrastructure awarded the early works contract to Brookfield Multiplex under an Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) procurement method.

Byron District and Mullumbimby hospitals will remain fully operational until Byron Central Hospital opens in mid-2016.