



Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$41 MILLION ST GEORGE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT NOW OPEN FOR PATIENTS

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today marked the delivery of another NSW Liberals and Nationals election commitment with the official opening of the new \$41 million St George Hospital emergency department.

Mrs Skinner, who was joined by Oatley MP Mark Coure, unveiled a plaque before meeting with staff and patients who were among the first to be treated in the state-of-the-art building - fully-funded by the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government.

“The opening of this wonderful emergency department is a momentous occasion for the people of the St George district as well as staff at the hospital,” Mrs Skinner said.

“Today’s official opening is more proof that the NSW Liberals & Nationals deliver on their commitments and are getting on with the job of providing enhanced health services for southern Sydney.

“After 16 years of dashed hopes under Labor, St George now has the emergency department they dreamed of - and I am proud to say it was fully-funded and built by the NSW Liberals and Nationals Government in our first four-year term.

“Today I pay tribute to clinicians and staff who were so engaged in planning this building and who displayed such patience and professionalism during the construction project.”

The existing St George Hospital emergency department is one of the busiest in NSW, seeing more than 68,000 people each year, about 25,000 of whom are admitted.

The new emergency department will allow for future capacity to manage the growing needs of the population. It includes:

- five resuscitation bays;
- an acute hall with 34 treatment spaces;
- two designated fast track zones, one for adults and one for children;
- an Emergency Medical Unit;
- relocation of Psychiatric Emergency Care Centre (PECC);
- satellite imaging;
- eight space off-street ambulance drop off zone;
- potential for additional storeys to be added in future development stages.

“An emergency department is the gateway to a hospital and when we get the emergency department right - as we have done with the design of this new St George emergency department - the whole of hospital benefits,” Mrs Skinner said.

Mr Coure said today is a great day for the people of the St George district.

“This is something I have been fighting for since my election. We promised, funded, built and have now delivered a new emergency department for the community,” Mr Coure said.

Rockdale MP John Flowers said: “This \$41 million building will ensure St George Hospital’s hard-working staff can deliver the best frontline care to our fast-growing community for years to come.”

The official opening of the emergency department is just the beginning of an exciting journey for St George Hospital.

In late 2013, Mrs Skinner announced \$800,000 to progress planning on a major redevelopment which would expand intensive care, high dependency and cardiac care services, create new operating theatres and enhance inpatient wards.

This year’s NSW Budget included a further \$4 million to commence the St George Hospital redevelopment, as well as \$2.2 million to commence the redevelopment of Sutherland Hospital.

The redevelopments of St George Hospital and Sutherland Hospital have an estimated total cost in excess of \$300 million.