



# **Jillian Skinner MP**

## **Minister for Health**

## **Minister for Medical Research**

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Thursday 23 October 2014

#### **BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE \$91.3 MILLION DUBBO HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today said the \$91.3 million Dubbo Hospital redevelopment is taking shape with the foundations of the new facility rising from the ground.

Mrs Skinner said she is proud the NSW Liberals & Nationals are delivering on their pre-election commitment to start the much-needed redevelopment of Dubbo Hospital.

“Dubbo was the first hospital I visited when I became the Health Minister in 2011 and its redevelopment has gone from strength to strength in this time,” Mrs Skinner said.

“The rebuild of Dubbo Hospital was long-promised by Labor but never delivered. In stark contrast, the NSW Liberals & Nationals are getting on with the job of building a state-of-the-art facility the community can be proud of.”

Mrs Skinner said the \$91.3 million redevelopment is making solid progress with rooms starting to come together inside the new clinical services building.

“The Dubbo community can now see for themselves the size and scope of the new clinical services building. I have absolutely no doubt it will transform patient care.

“The hard-working staff at Dubbo Hospital will soon be able to deliver the first-class care they are known for in a first-class facility.”

Deputy Premier and Dubbo MP Troy Grant said the redevelopment of Dubbo Hospital is a clear demonstration of the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government commitment to improving care for rural patients.

“The size and scope of the Dubbo Hospital redevelopment cannot be underestimated. This is just the beginning of a new era of health care for our region,” Mr Grant said.

“More than 650 tonnes of steel reinforcement is being used to construct the new building - equal to the maximum take-off weight of an Airbus A380, the world’s largest passenger plane.

“When completed, it will house state-of-the-art digital operating theatres, an inpatient ward, maternity unit, day surgery and much more.

“Stages 1 and 2 of the redevelopment are just a fraction of what the total redevelopment of Dubbo Hospital will deliver. The first part of planning for stages 3 and 4 are almost complete.

“The Preliminary Business Case for stages 3 and 4 will include the expansion of medical inpatient services, ambulatory care, oncology, the emergency department, critical care and a new front of house.

“I will continue to push for the complete redevelopment of our hospital and I know the Health Minister is listening.”

Dubbo Hospital General Manager Debbie Bickerton said: “It’s great to be able to view progress inside the new clinical services building for the first time and see the building coming to life.

“Stages 1 and 2 also include the refurbishment of some existing facilities such as the renal dialysis unit and the main entry to the hospital,” Ms Bickerton said.

Dubbo Hospital’s new clinical services building is scheduled for completion in late 2015, with the refurbishment works to follow.

The \$91.3 million Dubbo Hospital redevelopment stages 1 and 2 is jointly funded by the NSW Government (\$84.2 million) and the Australian Government (\$7.1 million).