



Jillian Skinner
Minister for Health

MEDIA RELEASE

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BYRON CENTRAL HOSPITAL MARKS ANOTHER KEY MILESTONE

Health Minister Jillian Skinner and Parliamentary Secretary for the North Coast Chris Gulaptis today visited Byron Central Hospital to mark the lock-up stage of the purpose-built \$88 million facility.

Joined by Northern NSW Local Health District board chair Dr Brian Pezzutti, chief executive Chris Crawford, Health Infrastructure senior staff and community representatives, Mrs Skinner inspected the three main buildings on the six hectare site at Ewingsdale.

Mrs Skinner said the “lock-up” was a significant milestone, representing the point at which the building was fitted with all the windows and exterior doors.

“The Byron Central Hospital project has progressed very well since construction began in late 2014. Construction is on schedule for completion early next year and the entire team of project managers is to be congratulated for their hard work,” Mrs Skinner said.

“It won’t be long before the fully functional Byron Central Hospital is treating its first patients.”

The new hospital will include an emergency department and in-patient rooms, a low-risk maternity unit and a community and mental health unit. New works starting soon will include a roundabout on Ewingsdale Road and a main hospital entrance.

Mr Gulaptis said when the hospital opens in mid-2016, it will replace the smaller district hospitals in Byron Bay and Mullumbimby, offering expanded services at a higher level.

“This new hospital is a wonderful asset for Byron Shire’s busy and growing community and will allow more residents and visitors to receive their treatment

locally,” Mr Gulaptis said.

When complete, services at Byron Central Hospital will include: 24-hour emergency attention; overnight inpatient beds; enhanced X-ray and medical imaging, including a CT scanner; as well as a dental service, satellite chemotherapy and ambulatory care.

On-site parking for visitors and staff will include 195 car spaces, 28 bicycle spaces and 16 motorcycle spaces.