



Jillian Skinner
Minister for Health

MEDIA RELEASE

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PLANNING MILESTONE FOR NEW MAITLAND HOSPITAL

The final business case for the new Maitland Hospital will be submitted today, bringing to an end the first phase of planning for this major project.

Health Minister Jillian Skinner said the final business case is a significant milestone as it recommends which services can be delivered at the new hospital on the Metford site.

“The NSW Government has committed more than \$400 million to build this hospital. The final business case supports our vision to offer a higher level of services than the current hospital, with all public patients having access to first-class, free health care at the new Maitland Hospital,” Mrs Skinner said.

“It will now be considered as part of the normal budget planning cycle, with planning work to continue through 2016 and construction set to begin in this term of government.”

On top of transferring and enhancing acute clinical services from the current hospital, the facility proposed in the final business case includes:

- additional inpatient beds in medicine, surgery, orthopaedics and rehabilitation
- more delivery suites, plus more theatre and day beds
- new services including an intensive care unit, emergency short stay unit and a psychiatric emergency care centre
- enhanced ambulatory care centre, introducing new chemotherapy and medical day unit services
- enhancements to existing medical imaging services, with an additional CT scanner and general x-ray room

Hunter New England Health chief executive Michael DiRienzo said his team worked closely with Health Infrastructure to complete the final business case.

“We have looked at how the new hospital can operate with all services in the region, as part of a cohesive network. Stakeholders will continue to be consulted as the project moves forward, including on the various models of care and the layout and design of the building,” Mr DiRienzo said.

Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter and Central Coast Scot MacDonald said the project is the biggest health planning exercise in the region in two decades.

“This year’s Budget included a massive boost of \$9.9 million to continue planning and site preparation. We are committed to finishing the job we started,” Mr MacDonald said.

Reconfiguration of services at Kurri Kurri Hospital and the existing Maitland Hospital is already underway and is the first step in delivering the new Maitland Hospital.