



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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PREMIER INSPECTS NEPEAN HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell today inspected construction work on Nepean Hospital's new East Block, part of the NSW Government's commitment to improving patient outcomes in Western Sydney.

During the visit, Mr O'Farrell reiterated the Government's \$3 billion commitment to fast track hospital upgrades, redevelopments and other health infrastructure priorities throughout NSW.

"The new East Block at Nepean Hospital will be a shining example of how investing in health infrastructure can improve outcomes for patients in the heart of Western Sydney," Mr O'Farrell said.

"We announced a \$185 million boost to upgrade Western Sydney hospitals before the election, and the community can expect to see real improvement at their local hospitals during the first term of my government," Mr O'Farrell said.

The Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research, Jillian Skinner, said the capital works, which would include expanded car parking facilities at Nepean Hospital, were only part of the plan to rebuild Western Sydney and improve patient care for residents. Blacktown Hospital and the Westmead Millennium Institute will be redeveloped and more funding would be granted for the Children's Medical Research Institute.

"The facility we're seeing built today at Nepean Hospital includes six additional operating theatres, an Ambulatory Procedures Centre and two purpose-built, 30-bed surgical wards," Mrs Skinner said.

"The Intensive Care Unit will be refurbished and expanded from 19 to 24 beds, which will dramatically improve the level of care available to patients.

Member for Penrith, Stuart Ayers, said the local community would warmly welcome the O'Farrell Government's commitment to health infrastructure in Western Sydney. "Labor had 16 years to fix the health infrastructure problems in Western Sydney but did nothing until weeks before the election," he said.

Other newly-elected local members Roza Sage (Blue Mountains), Tanya Davies (Mulgoa) and Bart Bassett (Londonderry) were in attendance to support the NSW Government's commitment to local Western Sydney hospitals.