

The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP Premier of NSW Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES IN ALBURY

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and the Minister for Health, Jillian Skinner, today announced that funding for a new ambulance station in Albury had been allocated and that detailed design works will commence in September.

Mr O'Farrell made the announcement ahead of a community cabinet meeting in Albury this afternoon.

"The Member for Albury has been banging down my door to tell me we need to build a new ambulance station in Albury, and it's a testament to his hard work that we can make this announcement today," Mr O'Farrell said.

"The new Albury ambulance station will be purpose built to accommodate the staff and vehicles required to service Albury and surrounding communities into the future," he said.

The Minister for Health, Jillian Skinner, said that the purchase of land and construction of a new ambulance station is a large investment which is estimated to cost close to \$4 million.

"Investment in the ambulance station has been confirmed in the recent State budget, after it had been identified as a high priority project by the Member for Albury, Greg Aplin, and the Ambulance Service of NSW.

"A detailed planning study which includes extensive modelling has been undertaken with independent consultants recommending the best locations," Mrs Skinner said.

"Negotiations for the purchase of land will commence together with planning for the construction of the station."

The Member for Albury, Greg Aplin, said the community would be pleased with the news that design work is set to begin in the next few months.

"I'm looking forward to being able to open this station by the middle of 2014," Mr Aplin said.

"I have campaigned long and hard for this station and it's great to have the Premier and Heath Minister here in Albury to confirm that we're getting on with the job of delivering this commitment. "The old ambulance station has served our paramedics and community well over many years but with the increasing population and subsequent workload it is time to move on."