PLANNING APPROVAL FOR STATE-OF-THE-ART HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT IN WESTERN SYDNEY

The NSW Government has given planning approval for the latest stage of the $138 million redevelopment of the Nepean health campus, including a refurbished and expanded intensive care unit ward and new three-level hospital building.

Minister for Health Carmel Tebbutt – who today joined members of the Dharug Aboriginal nation for a traditional smoking ceremony at the site – said the project would deliver new state-of-art facilities for the people of western Sydney and had the potential to create some 150 construction jobs.

NSW Health Infrastructure has been given approval to build:

- Six additional operating theatres and pre and post-operative areas
- Extra day only and extended day only beds
- Two new purpose-built 30-bed surgical wards to replace older style existing wards
- A new 12-bed intensive care pod including six additional ICU beds

The redevelopment has been funded by the Commonwealth and State Governments.

“This project will assist Nepean Hospital to meet the demands of both the existing and future residents of the surrounding area and is great news for western Sydney,” Ms Tebbutt said.

“In particular, the expansion will help respond to the ageing nature of the population and the increase in chronic disease and advances in technology.”

Member for Penrith Karyn Paluzzano said early works had already been completed on the hospital site, including demolition works.

“This project at Nepean Hospital directly addresses the need for our health facilities to cope with our growing and ageing population, and consolidates its role as a major regional healthcare facility for the future,” Ms Paluzzano said.

Federal Member for Lindsay David Bradbury welcomed the planning approval.

“The redevelopment is great news for the local community and I look forward to watching it take shape,” he said.

Work on some areas of the redevelopment has already been completed, including an upgrade to the sterilising department and extensions to the hospital's highly successful Medical Assessment Unit (MAU) to help fast-track care for older patients with complex medical problems.

A construction management plan will be required as a planning condition to manage building noise and vehicle movement during the construction phase.

The latest stage of the project was assessed by the Department of Planning as a major project under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act because it was a hospital application with a value of more than $15 million.