

## **Labor to invest \$50 million to upgrade Muswellbrook Hospital**

March 11, 2015

A Foley Labor Government will set aside \$50 million for the long overdue upgrade of Muswellbrook Hospital – without privatising our electricity network.

Labor's \$50 million funding will be for stages two and three of the Muswellbrook Hospital redevelopment.

Stage two (\$20 million) will include:

- Enhanced renal dialysis service;
- Additional chemotherapy chairs;
- Additional renal dialysis chairs;
- Expanded ambulatory care facilities – redeveloping outpatient consulting spaces for medical and surgical services, along with new space for patients recovering from day surgery;
- Upgrading the lift to assist patients;
- Hospital equipment upgrade; and
- Expand the main hospital entrance and reception areas.

Labor will begin planning and set aside \$30 million for stage three of the development expansion which could include:

- Expanded maternity services;
- Additional adult inpatient beds;
- A central sterilising services department;
- Enhanced clinical services such as physiotherapy and pharmacy; and
- More medical consulting rooms.

Labor's \$50 million exceeds the Liberals' existing commitment. Labor will reserve \$30 million more for the hospital redevelopment without selling our electricity network.

### **Quotes attributable to Labor Leader Luke Foley:**

“People across NSW deserve world-class hospitals – not just in our major cities, but across the regions.

“Labor will reserve \$50 million for stages two and three of the Muswellbrook Hospital redevelopment – and it won't be contingent on the sale of our electricity network.

“This upgrade will mean people in the Upper Hunter will no longer have to travel to John Hunter Hospital for chemotherapy and other key treatments.

### **Quotes attributable to Shadow Minister for Health Walt Secord:**

“A Foley Labor Government will set aside \$50 million to significantly improve Muswellbrook Hospital without privatising electricity.”

“Rural and regional patients often have to travel significant distances for hospital treatment. This hospital upgrade will give the people of Muswellbrook and the Upper Hunter first rate facilities closer to home.

### **Key Facts**

- Muswellbrook Hospital is a 46-bed hospital that provides acute care, emergency care, and maternity, surgical, paediatric, renal dialysis and chemotherapy services, for the people of the Upper Hunter.
- Last year there were 7,461 presentations at Muswellbrook Hospital Emergency Department.

Read more about [Labor's plan for rural, regional and coastal health](#).

Need to know more? What are the Government's or the Coalition's plans for health care? Do you need to know about current spending on health services?

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