



# The Hon Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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4 May, 2012

#### **FUNDS SECURED FOR LISMORE BASE HOSPITAL**

The Minister for Health, Jillian Skinner, and the Member for Lismore, Thomas George, today announced that the NSW Government had secured vital funds under the Commonwealth Government's Health and Hospitals Fund (HHF), for a major upgrade to Lismore Base Hospital.

Mrs Skinner and Mr George joined the Federal Minister for Health, Tanya Plibersek, to announce the funding at Lismore Base Hospital today.

"I welcome the \$60m in HHF funding and I'm pleased to announce a further \$20m from the NSW Government for this significant redevelopment," Minister Skinner said.

"This is a positive milestone in the upgrade of Lismore hospital as we work to provide better healthcare for the region," Mrs Skinner said.

"This is a Government that's committed to improving health services in regional areas and I'm pleased we are able to secure this important funding, as well as making a significant contribution ourselves," she said.

"The funding will allow for the expansion of the emergency department, as well as improved facilities for community and primary care."

The upgrade will include:

- An expansion of the emergency department, which will include a 12 bed Emergency Medical Unit (EMU);
- Improved renal dialysis capacity; and
- Community and primary health services in new facilities.

"Further discussions will now take place to finalise the scope and timeframe for the building and commissioning of services," Minister Skinner said.

"This is a great example of collaboration with the Commonwealth and I look forward to continuing my close relationship with the Federal Minister to improve health care across NSW," she said.

The Member for Lismore, Thomas George, said the Lismore region has had a major win.

“I am extremely proud that all the hard work from the community, the Northern NSW Local Health District and the NSW Government has paid off,” Mr George said.

“This investment will be planned in such a way so as to also prepare the campus for further redevelopment in the future, as funds become available,” he said.

“I welcome the Ministers’ visit to Lismore today and I look forward to keeping the community informed of the progress of the project.”