



2 June 2006

## **CONTRACTOR APPOINTED FOR BATHURST HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT**

NSW Minister for Health, John Hatzistergos, today announced the successful tenderer for the redevelopment of Bathurst Hospital, paving the way for construction to begin.

John Holland Group has been chosen to undertake the \$97 million redevelopment, which will include a new hospital building with 149 beds, a new mental health unit and a roof-top helipad.

“The appointment of the successful tenderer for the Bathurst Hospital redevelopment means we can now go ahead with constructing the new health facility,” My Hatzistergos said.

“This is a significant achievement in the NSW Government’s commitment to upgrade health facilities and improve clinical services in rural areas.”

The new facility will include

- A new multi-storey hospital building with 149 beds
- An inpatient mental health unit
- A state-of-the-art Accident and Emergency ward
- A new day procedures unit
- On-site provision of community health
- Flexible ward design to accommodate changes in need and future growth
- A new helipad on top of the hospital building with direct internal lift access to emergency and clinical services
- Provision for an ambulance station to be developed in the future
- Improved education and research facilities linked to patient treatment areas
- Enhanced hospital access and parking
- Restoration of the original heritage-listed hospital building, which was built in 1880, to house the health service’s administrative and education centre.

“The redevelopment will add to the wide range of important health services which are already provided by Bathurst Hospital,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

These services include surgical, obstetrics, gynaecological, radiology, paediatrics and intensive care,” he said.

“I’d like to acknowledge the contribution and hard work of the Department of Planning and the Bathurst City Council in the community consultation and assessment process.”

Member for Bathurst, Gerard Martin, was pleased to see that the redevelopment of Bathurst Hospital was fast becoming a reality.

“This is another step in the Government’s plans to provide better health services for the people of Bathurst,” Mr Martin said.

“The Bathurst community’s concerns have been heard in the planning stages, with Poole House and Daffodil Cottage now being retained during the redevelopment.

“In addition, there will be at least 266 car parking spaces on-site and as many trees as possible will be protected during the construction process,” he said.

“Through John Holland Group, the successful construction tenderer, NSW Health will also continue archaeological site assessment in line with construction,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

In addition NSW Health will:

- continue to consult with the community and council;
- assist with the upgrade of the intersection of Durham and Mitre Streets with a roundabout and street lighting;
- consult with the local Land Council and the Department of Environment and Conservation on Aboriginal heritage issues;
- prepare plans to manage identified issues such as signage, noise, flora and fauna protection, safety, and traffic and pedestrian management.

“With construction now being given the green light, we are well on track to deliver advanced and accessible health care services to the Bathurst community,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

**- Ends-**