

STATE BUDGET

2019-20

MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING HON STEPHEN WADE MLC MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 18 June 2019

Building a better health system for women, children and families

The Marshall Liberal Government has made a substantial funding commitment towards a new Women's and Children's Hospital (WCH) provisioning \$550 million over the forward estimates to commence the project.

Minister for Health and Wellbeing Stephen Wade said the new hospital will deliver world-class care and facilities for South Australian women, children and families for many years to come.

"The Marshall Government is making a significant investment in the future of health care in our state, to create a place where families can receive high quality health care and support," Minister Wade said.

"This will be a state-of-the-art, world-class hospital for families, but we are also determined to ensure it delivers value for the taxpayer.

"We will continue to work closely with clinicians, consumers and key stakeholders to achieve that goal and ultimately build a better health system for all South Australians."

While the overall cost of the project will only be determined during the next stage of planning, the State Government is committed to building a new WCH within a reasonable budget and timeframe.

As has been previously indicated, the latest estimate for the completion date is in 2025-26.

Minister Wade said there is still some work to be done before the final business case is complete and a comprehensive plan on the hospital can be developed.

"We have already collaborated with a range of experts so far, and we are committed to continuing with a consultative process as we work towards the detailed planning phase," Minister Wade said.

"We are also committed to continuing to work with our front-line doctors and nurses to ensure we give them the right tools to provide world-class care well into the future.

"Labor's failure to engage clinicians or to properly plan lead to blow outs to the timeframe and cost of the new Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH).

"In earmarking a prime location, co-located with the RAH and within the Adelaide BioMed City, we will ensure women, children and families will have access to cutting-edge treatment and the best facilities available.

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“The Marshall Liberal Government is determined to grow the western end of North Terrace as a precinct of leading health and medical research, training and care.”

“We will continue to invest in world-class infrastructure to better support the health and wellbeing of all South Australians.”

The \$550 million provisioned in the 2019-20 State Budget for expenditure over the forward estimates is in addition to the State Government’s \$50 million sustainment package over the forward estimates to upgrade the current WCH site, while planning for the new hospital continues.