A Healthy Territory: $3.8 Million for Gove Hospital

The Northern Territory Government will provide $3.8 million in the upcoming Budget for additional staff accommodation at Gove District Hospital, Health Minister Kon Vatskalis announced today.

Mr Vatskalis said the funding will deliver six, two-bedroom units.

“The Henderson Government is continuing to invest in improving hospitals, remote health services and providing more doctors and nurses,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“Recruiting health professionals to remote areas of the Territory continues to be a priority for the Henderson Government, and providing good accommodation for staff is an important part of attracting nurses and doctors to work in these areas.

“Territory’s geography, isolation and demography presents challenges in recruiting specialised skill sets to remote regions, however the Henderson Government is continually looking at ways to attract more doctors and nurses to work in the Territory.”

Member for Nhulunbuy, Lynne Walker, said the six, 2-bedroom units will be built by July 2011 on the Gove District Hospital campus site.

“This additional housing will meet the immediate staffing needs of the hospital and reduce wait times for government employee housing in Gove,” Ms Walker said.

Mr Vatskalis said Budget 2010 would continue the Henderson Government’s record spending for health and families.

“Budget 2010 will deliver now for Territory families with record spending to boost hospitals,” he said.

“The Government is continuing to invest in our future with better hospitals and 618 extra nurses and 208 additional doctors since 2001.

“While funding for health and families has more than doubled since Labor came to office in 2001.

“Budget 2010 invests in Territory 2030 the Henderson Government’s strategic plan for our future.”

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