Work is continuing on the Palmerston Regional Hospital on two fronts with the Country Liberals Government now seeking a private health provider to design, build, operate and maintain the public hospital and construction works for the Temple Terrace extension are now in full swing.

The $150 million hospital jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Territory Government’s will, for the first time, offer a fully functioning Level 3 hospital close to the Palmerston and Rural Area.

Minister for Health Robyn Lambley said the Government has opted for this construction model because they believe it will attract the best project partners to develop a modern and innovative hospital that provides patient-centred care.

“This model improves on the model used for the prison as the successful company will inject their operational and maintenance knowledge into the design and build phases from the start of the project. This maximises efficiencies during the hospital’s operational life,” Mrs Lambley said.

“Clinical modelling indicates there will be demand for 79 patient beds when the hospital opens in 2018, growing to 116 by 2027.

“This is the first new hospital built in the Northern Territory for almost 40 years and it is the Territory and Commonwealth’s vision to grow northern Australia and to develop Darwin and Palmerston into a dynamic regional hub.”

Minister for Infrastructure Peter Styles said earthworks on the Stuart Highway and Temple Terrace intersection is getting underway today, to improve safety and relieve congestion in the local area.

“The redesigned intersection will allow for growth and development into the future, including safe access for emergency vehicles, visitors and staff, as part of the operations of the new hospital,” Minister Styles said.

“Pedestrians will benefit from increased accessibility around the hospital campus with wider footpaths and additional crossings at the link road intersection.
“The Giles Government is committed to linking cycle paths through the new site with dedicated lanes resulting from the redevelopment, creating better connected cycle networks.

“These works are another large civil project to bolster investment in our local construction industry and demonstrate the Government’s commitment to building the economy.”

Work on the intersection will be undertaken by Allan King and Sons Construction Pty Ltd and is scheduled to minimise disruption to motorists during peak traffic hours.

“I would urge motorists, pedestrians and cyclists to please obey all signage and drive, walk and ride carefully in the area, while the works are taking place,” Minister Styles.

“I am pleased this Darwin based company is employing 34 workers during construction. They have 12 apprentices involved, including an indigenous apprentice and three full time indigenous employees to undertake the work.

The $6.4 million work on the intersection is part of the PRH headworks program expected to be completed in mid 2015.

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