Milestone For Palmerston Hospital With Early Works Beginning

The construction of the $110 million Palmerston Hospital took a significant step forward today with the commencement of water and sewage headworks, Chief Minister Paul Henderson said today.

Chief Minister Paul Henderson joined Minister for Health Kon Vatskalis to announce Budget 2012 will see $10.3 million go towards the early works and stage 1 construction of the $110 million project.

“In Budget 2012, the Territory is gearing up for growth, and this is a significant investment into health funding to support Territory families through affordable and quality health services,” Mr Henderson said.

“This is an exciting time for the people of Palmerston and the rural community and an exciting time for the whole NT health system,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“This new hospital will service Palmerston and the surrounding districts into the future, and will have the flexibility to be expanded and developed as the population demand grows,” he said.

“I’ve said before that it is full steam ahead for Palmerston Hospital, today is testament of the work that has already gone into the planning.”

The early works, including upgrading water and sewer services to the site and other associated headworks is being undertaken by local civil contractors, JN Mousellis.
"The construction of Palmerston Hospital is a great example of the Federal and NT Governments listening to Territorians and planning for the future of the Territory," said Senator Crossin.

"Palmerston Hospital will have a fully equipped Emergency Department and provide day procedures, in-patient beds, some maternity services, and outpatient services.

“The Federal and Territory Labor Governments are working together to deliver better health outcomes for Territorians."

“Consultations are still happening with ongoing input from a range of clinical professionals and stakeholders, including local government, St John Ambulance and NGOs," Mr Vatskalis said.

“So far 50 workshops and key planning processes have taken place, including the awarding of the design tender to the well-known Darwin-based firm MKEA architects.

“So now we have a designated site, a design process under way, the start of headworks, and planning workshops to determine the mix of clinical services that local people will access.”

“In line with the Territory Government’s Territory 2030 strategy, Territorians can now access better medical care, closer to home, and services will get even better in the months and years ahead.”

The tender for construction will be advertised in late 2012, with award of contract planned for March 2013. Construction of the Hospital will be completed in late 2015.

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