MINISTER FOR HEALTH

NEW GOVE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ON TRACK

14 May, 2013

Planning for works on a new Emergency Department at Gove District Hospital is taking shape, with the scope of the new facility now finalised and the construction tender to be issued within months.

Health Minister, Robyn Lambley, says the $13 million Emergency Department project will be a major boost to the delivery of health services in one of the Territory’s largest population centres.

“The communities around Gove deserve to have this significant new piece of health infrastructure,” Mrs Lambley said.

“About 5000 people live in Nhulunbuy and another 9000 live in the East Arnhem region stretching from Ramingining to the west and Numbulwar in the south.”

Financed by the Commonwealth’s Health and Hospitals Fund and built by the Territory Government, the new Emergency Department will benefit patients and staff.

“The new Emergency Department will be designed to improve efficiencies and the delivery of emergency care to assist the hospital to manage future increases in demand,” Mrs Lambley said.

“It will have seven patient bays compared to the current four bays, critical care and resuscitation bays, reception and triage area, patient isolation room and secure care assessment room.

“There will also be patient and staff amenities and administration areas.

“The Department will be a single storey building, linked to existing ward areas which will be an enormous boost to medical staff that deserve a state-of the-art facility.

“As far back as the 1960s, the current Emergency Department was the original Gove Hospital building.

“While the old Emergency Department has provided excellent service over many years, the Country Liberals Government is proud to be value adding health infrastructure for the Gove community.”

The construction tender process for the new facility is expected to begin later this year and it will be operating by early 2015.

Budget 2013 has also allocated $465 000 for construction of a new paediatric ensuite at the Hospital.

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