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Palmerston women will soon be able to take advantage of a permanent breast screen service at the Palmerston Community Health Precinct.

Minister for Health Robyn Lambley and Minister for Women’s Policy Bess Price today inspected the capital works of the new Palmerston BreastScreen NT clinic.

“Previously women in Palmerston have only had access to a once-a-year visiting screening service,” Mrs Lambley said.

“Now they can access the permanent clinic two-days a week, and it’s anticipated to increase to a three-day service by 2015.

“This is great news for Palmerston women in the fight against breast cancer and it’s expected that about 2000 women will use this service in the first year.

“Regular screening mammograms increase the likelihood that breast cancer is found as early as possible.

The Federal Member for Solomon Natasha Griggs said Palmerston was one of the fastest growing regions in the Territory and the new service would provide convenient access for local women.

“This valuable service will provide crucial help to Palmerston women in the fight against cancer,” Mrs Griggs said.

“One in 9 Australian women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime, and the chances increase as women get older.

“It’s another example of the Federal and Territory Government’s commitment to improving health outcomes for Territorians.”

Minister for Women’s Policy Bess Price says the Country Liberals Government is committed to improving government services for women throughout the Territory.

“Early detection of breast cancer before it has a chance to spread is the most important factor in determining the survival and recovery from the disease,” Mrs Price said.

The Palmerston clinic will open on the 28th of April and will include a screening room, two clinical rooms, and administration area.

Breast screening is free and targets women aged 50-69 years of age.
The Commonwealth Government has provided $600,000 to set up the Palmerston screening clinic, with a further $1.2 million to establish a remote screening service.

The Territory Government has committed $750,000 in recurrent funding to operate the Palmerston clinic and remote mobile service.

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