



# **Jillian Skinner MP**

## **Minister for Health**

## **Minister for Medical Research**

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Friday 3 May 2013

#### **MINISTER ANNOUNCES EXTRA \$570,000 FOR FAIRFIELD HOSPITAL BEDS AND X-RAY MACHINE**

Fairfield Hospital will receive almost \$570,000 for an X-ray machine and 104 new electric beds, Health Minister Jillian Skinner announced while touring the hospital today with Smithfield MP Andrew Rohan.

Mrs Skinner and Mr Rohan met the hospital's new general manager, Arnold Tammekand, as well as other staff and volunteers during their visit.

"I am delighted to announce additional funding to support Fairfield Hospital's ongoing replacement program for essential medical equipment," Mrs Skinner said.

"A new X-ray machine will produce high-quality digital images that can be sent electronically to treating physicians within minutes, reducing delays in turnaround time.

"And patients and staff will benefit enormously from 104 new electric beds, which can be adjusted at the push of a button rather than manually wound up and down.

"These beds will improve patient comfort and wellbeing and help staff provide high-quality care without compromising workplace safety."

Four of the beds will be designed for the Coronary Care Unit to allow patients to raise beds into a sitting position to assist breathing.

Mr Rohan said the people of Fairfield City, and in particular the Smithfield electorate, would welcome the long-awaited funding boost.

"Ours is an ethnically-diverse, fast-growing community with wide ranging medical needs," Mr Rohan said.

"A funding boost of \$570,000 will make a significant difference to the quality of health care provided to the patients of Fairfield Hospital."

The new electric beds and the X-ray machine are expected to be operational by the end of June.