

South Australian Transforming Health Proposal

February 2015

On Tuesday 3 February, Premier Hon. Jay Weatherill released the Transforming Health proposal which details service improvements for South Australian metropolitan hospitals.

The proposal focuses on best practice systems that seek to improve consistency within the healthcare system according to specific service categories, such as access to services for Veterans and clearer distinctions between hospitals that are best equipped for serious emergencies and suitable for minor emergencies.

The Delivering Transforming Health proposal stated that patients are not receiving consistent quality outcomes and is set to provide the largest overhaul of the South Australian health system.

Although the proposal does not include regional hospitals, figures indicate that between 20 – 30 percent of patients at metropolitan patients reside in the country.

Over the past three years, \$190 million has been allocated to improving regional health services, with Whyalla Hospital and Health Services redeveloped in 2013 at a cost of \$69 million.

Health Minister Jack Snelling has said the proposal was developed in consultation with doctors, nurses, midwives, and scientific and allied health professionals.

Medical professionals have developed 282 standards which 230 required no re-structuring of the health system however, 52 required changes have been detailed as follows:

- The creation of three new super-site major EDs at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, Lyell McEwin and Flinders Medical Centre with senior medical staff on site at all times;
- The creation of three elective surgery centres of excellence
- With the most complex elective surgery at the new Royal Adelaide Hospital;
- Multi-day elective surgery to become a focus of The Queen Elizabeth Hospital;
- Noarlunga Hospital becoming a statewide centre for single day elective surgery
- More than \$250 million in capital works and refurbishments including a new 55-bed rehabilitation ward at the Flinders Medical Centre and improvements to five hospitals;
- A new \$15 million centre of excellence to provide first-class care for Post-Traumatic Stress;
- A new centre for elective eye surgery at a re-configured Modbury Hospital;
- A 24-7 hyper-acute stroke unit at the new Royal Adelaide Hospital and dedicated stroke units at the Lyell McEwin Hospital and Flinders Medical Centre;
- The Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Modbury Hospital Emergency Departments will continue to support local communities, with ambulances to take patients to a major emergency department for serious or life-threatening situation;



- Noarlunga Hospital Walk-in Emergency Clinic will be established, replacing the existing emergency model of care, and will include a physical upgrade;
- Rehabilitation services will be moved from the Repatriation General Hospital, Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre and St Margaret's Rehabilitation Hospital to be integrated into major hospitals;
- More than 70 new paramedics, 12 new ambulances and two new ambulance stations to deal with the changes to Emergency Departments;
- A plan to free up more beds currently occupied by people ready to be discharged but who can't be accommodated in an aged-care facility or other suitable setting;
- An improved way of treating and accommodating mental health consumers; and
- An investigation into bringing forward the building of a new Women's and Children's Hospital on the site of the new Royal Adelaide Hospital.

The public have the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposal until 27 February 2015.

To view the Delivering Transforming Health Proposals Paper [click here](#).