

HOSPITAL IS ALL GO

June has seen some significant milestones for the new Maitland Hospital.

On June 19, Treasurer Dominic Perrottet confirmed in the NSW Budget, the funding commitment for the hospital had been increased from \$450 million to \$470 million. In 2018/19 \$23.5 million will be spent in the early stages of construction.

On June 22, NSW Health Infrastructure released the Environmental Impact Statement outlining impacts on the local Metford area including traffic, public transport, access to the hospital and the footprint of the Hospital. The community is invited to have its say up to July 19 through the website www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au

Earlier this week Hunter New England Health provided to the public the New Maitland Hospital Service Statement. It can be viewed at www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au

This describes the planning concepts behind the new hospital; the services to be provided and resources such as bed numbers and types. It is being built for a significant increase (but ageing) in population in the Lower Hunter.

Also it has been confirmed the tender process for construction should be finalised in six months. All exciting developments.

What we haven't seen is any meaningful commitment from Labor. No funding in their Budget in Reply.

The evidence shows only the Liberals will deliver the new Maitland Hospital.

Scot MacDonald, Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter



SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS: June was a big month for Maitland's new hospital, with a number of milestones met.