

News releases - Jay Weatherill

Better health care for women, children and newborns

Jay Weatherill

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A new \$528 million world-class Adelaide Women's Hospital will be built as part of the 2017-18 State Budget's \$1.1 billion investment to further modernise our health system.

The new Adelaide Women's Hospital, which will be physically connected to the new Royal Adelaide Hospital, is expected to be completed by the end of 2024.

It will provide Australia's highest standard of maternity and neonatal services. This includes:

- Tertiary level maternity, neonatal and gynaecology services
- Access to the new RAH's helipad
- Access to adult intensive care and sub-specialty services
- An increase in neonatal intensive care capacity
- Perinatal infant mental health services

It will have direct access to critical care services for both women and newborns and access to the new Royal Adelaide Hospital's helipad, significantly reducing the risk of transferring maternity and neonatal emergencies.

The 2017-18 State Budget also includes an additional \$24 million over two years towards an overall \$64.4 million upgrade to the existing Women's and Children's Hospital. A site will also be identified by the end of 2019 for a new Children's Hospital at the Adelaide Biomedical Precinct in the future.

This investment is in addition to the creation of a new Medical Day Unit at the Women's and Children's Hospital to provide high-quality care to children who need renal dialysis, allergy clinic services and immunology services.

Planning for both the new Adelaide Women's Hospital and the upgrades at the Women's and Children's Hospital will commence immediately.

Building the new Adelaide Women's Hospital is expected to create 1900 full-time equivalent jobs for South Australians during the life of the project.

Background

The 2017-18 State Budget commits \$528 million for the new Adelaide Women's Hospital (\$30.3 million over the forward estimates), to be co-located with the new Royal Adelaide

Hospital by the end of 2024.

An additional \$24 million over two years (as part of an overall total of \$64.4 million) will be invested in upgrades of the existing Women's and Children's Hospital.

By the end of 2019, the State Government will announce its plan for a new Children's Hospital.

Quotes attributable to Premier Jay Weatherill

We are investing more than \$550 million to protect the health of our women, children and newborns at some of the most vulnerable times in their lives.

The new Adelaide Women's Hospital, positioned next to the new Royal Adelaide Hospital, will be a modern, purpose-built facility that will care for women and newborns for many generations.

Today's announcement is part of our \$1.1 billion investment to modernise our health system and create centres of excellence.

Quotes attributable to Health Minister Jack Snelling

Our doctors say this model will be of great benefit, in particular in situations where a mother may experience a difficult birth and require acute intensive care at the new Royal Adelaide Hospital.

Having access to the new Royal Adelaide Hospital's helipad will also significantly improve the timeliness of access to air services for high-risk maternal and neonate emergencies.

By upgrading the existing Women's and Children's Hospital we are also ensuring every South Australian child has access to hospital services that cater for their every health need.

A permanent site will be identified by the end of 2019 for a new Children's Hospital at the Adelaide Biomedical Precinct in the future.

Quotes attributable to Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis

I have seen first-hand the life-saving work our doctors and nurses provide our women, children and newborns. That is why we are investing to deliver modern, world-class health services for South Australian families.

The new Adelaide Women's Hospital, combined with the upgrades to the existing Women's and Children's Hospital and the new Royal Adelaide Hospital, will ensure our families have access to the latest in high-quality, advanced health care services.

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