

STATE BUDGET

2018-19

MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING STEPHEN WADE MLC MEDIA RELEASE

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State Budget delivers better health services

The Marshall Liberal Government is acting to restore South Australians' confidence in the public health system with a raft of positive initiatives in the 2018-19 State Budget.

"The commitments will deliver the better health services that were a core promise of the Marshall Liberal team," said Minister for Health and Wellbeing Stephen Wade.

"The State Government is investing in hospitals, frontline clinical staff and health services right across the state to enhance the wellbeing of South Australians."

South Australian hospitals will benefit from a substantial investment in improved services in the 2018-19 State Budget that includes:

- \$23 million over four years to support the establishment and operation of a 4-bed high dependency unit at the Modbury Hospital;
- \$14.5 million over four years to establish a 12-bed acute medical unit at Noarlunga Hospital enabling the facility to admit a wider range of patients with more complex needs;
- \$9.9 million over four years to strengthen the cardiac centre at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital to ensure accessible, quality health services for the people of western Adelaide; and
- \$52 million over four years to support nursing and public hospital staffing costs at the Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH).

"The State Government is committing \$40 million over the next two years to reduce South Australia's elective surgery waiting lists and reduce the number of patients waiting beyond clinically recommended timeframes," said Minister Wade.

"Too many South Australians are waiting too long for important elective surgery and this substantial investment will deliver critical relief for many patients."

Over the year to 30 June, the number of patients waiting for overdue elective surgery increased ten-fold.

In addition, the 2018-19 Budget provides \$5.0 million over the next four years to improve bowel cancer prevention and detection in South Australia through the reduction in waiting lists for colonoscopies.

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The Marshall Government is investing \$30.7 million over three years to introduce a Meningococcal B Immunisation Program for South Australian infants, children and young people.

This program will be the first in Australia for infants and the first in the world for young people.

The State Budget delivers \$16 million over four years to establish a new Commission of Excellence and Innovation in Health to advise on best clinical practice and maximise health outcomes for patients.

The 2018-19 State Budget delivers a \$2.5 million investment over four years to increase support networks and break down stigma associated with mental illness and suicide.

The 2018-19 State Budget provides \$10 million over four years to establish a specialist state-wide borderline personality disorder (BPD) service, including a Centre of Excellence for people living with BPD, and their families and carers.

A paediatric eating disorder service will be established with a \$250,000 investment this year, growing to \$1.0 million per annum from 2019-20 to ensure children who are experiencing an eating disorder are able to access specialist treatment.

The 2018-19 State Budget invests an additional \$16.0 million over four years to improve palliative care support for people in the final stages of their life.

A \$2.6 million investment over four years will establish a new Adult Safeguarding Unit to respond to reports of abuse, neglect and mistreatment of vulnerable adults.

The taskforce undertaking the planning and design of a new Women's and Children's Hospital will receive \$5.3million over the forward estimates to progress this important project.

The Marshall Liberal team's promise to establish real-time prescription monitoring in South Australia to help identify and deal with prescription drug misuse will receive \$7.5 million over three years.

The 2018-19 State Budget provides \$400,000 over four years for the Council on the Ageing to extend the reach of the Strength for Life program.