

STATE BUDGET 2018-19

MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING STEPHEN WADE MLC MEDIA RELEASE

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Repairing the damage to our hospitals

The Marshall Liberal Government has delivered on its promise to re-invest in South Australia's hospital system to repair damage done by the previous Labor government under Transforming Health.

The State Government is committed to delivering more hospital services closer to the people who need them.

The 2018-19 State Budget reveals that the Marshall Government's decision to secure the Repatriation General Hospital site for health services by terminating the contract to sell the site resulted in a reduction of revenue of approximately \$20 million.

"As a consequence of our commitment to hospital services, the 2018-19 State Budget invests \$9.9 million over four years to strengthen the cardiac centre at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital (TQEH)," said Minister for Health and Wellbeing Stephen Wade.

"Western Adelaide is an epicentre of heart disease in South Australia and yet the former Labor government downgraded cardiac services at the TQEH.

"The Marshall Government's investment will return accessible, quality health services to the people of Western Adelaide."

The 2018-19 State Budget also addresses the damage done to the Modbury Hospital by the former Labor government under Transforming Health.

The budget provides \$23 million over four years to support the establishment and operation of a 4-bed high dependency unit (HDU) at the Modbury Hospital.

"The HDU will make more procedures possible at Modbury Hospital, reduce the need for ambulance transfers, and ease pressure on both the Modbury Emergency Department and the Lyell McEwin Hospital," said Minister Wade.

The 2018-19 State Budget also provides \$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.

The 2018-19 State Budget also allocates \$52 million over four years to support nursing and public hospital staffing costs at the Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH).

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The \$5.3 million committed to enable the planning and design of a new Women's and Children's Hospital is further proof of the Marshall Government's commitment to delivering better hospital services for all South Australians.