

# STATE BUDGET

## 2021-22

**PREMIER HON STEVEN MARSHALL MP**  
**MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING**  
**HON STEPHEN WADE MLC**  
MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 22 June 2021

### **Building a better Women's and Children's Hospital**

The Marshall Liberal Government will invest \$1.95 billion\* on a landmark new Women's and Children's Hospital (nWCH), securing the project for South Australian women, children, babies and their families for generations to come.

Through the 2018-19 to 2020-21 State Budgets, the Marshall Government committed \$685 million to commence the planning, design and construction of the nWCH.

Today we announce the full \$1.95 billion investment (a further \$1.26 billion) to complete the new hospital.

The new state-of-the-art hospital, to be built next to the Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH) on Port Road, will include 500 treatment spaces – nearly 60 more than the current hospital. It will also include 170 outpatient consultation rooms, a multi-level carpark and two air bridges linking the nWCH to the RAH.

Premier Steven Marshall said the project is the culmination of a year's worth of dedicated community engagement, including more than 1,000 hours of consultation with 700 clinicians, hospital staff and consumers.

"The WCH has been delivering exceptional care to millions of South Australians for more than 140 years and now it will have the facilities to match," said Premier Marshall, as the latest artist impression images and fly-over video were released.

"Over the past year, we have been consulting with staff, clinicians, consumers and stakeholders about what they envision for the nWCH. Our clinicians raised concerns that the 445 treatment spaces originally proposed for the new hospital would not be enough to meet future demand.

"They called for more treatment spaces and today that's what we're committing to delivering - a 13 per cent increase in the size of the current WCH.

"I want to invite all South Australians to join us as we embark on this journey to build the WCH community a new home next to the RAH."

Minister for Health and Wellbeing Stephen Wade said the artist impression images reveal the nWCH will link to the RAH by two air bridges that will provide direct access to the adult Intensive Care Unit and other clinical services, as well as the use of the helipad for medical retrieval of critically unwell patients, including children and babies.

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“The hospital will also improve the transition of care to adult services for adolescents, enhance mental health care facilities, and will further education, training and research capabilities, being located within the Adelaide Biomed City,” Minister Wade said.

“Disability and pram parking will be closer to the hospital, more accessible and more user friendly than the current arrangement at WCH. This will greatly benefit many of the most frequent users of the hospital.

“There will be a strong emphasis on sustainable design and the nWCH will become Australia's first all-electric hospital, helping to avoid an additional 2,178 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions each year - the equivalent of taking 700 vehicles off the road.”

As well as an intensive consultation and planning program, two independent peer reviews have been undertaken of the Schedule of Accommodation for the nWCH, which included benchmarking against peer hospitals, and which informed the proposed size and scope of the nWCH.

Four cost peer reviews were commissioned which support the cost estimate – two independent reviews and two Department for Infrastructure and Transport reviews.

*\*The nWCH costing is subject to a further Infrastructure South Australia review which may impact estimated project costs.*