

Media Release

The Hon Martin Foley MP
Minister for Health
Minister for Ambulance Services
Minister for Equality



Wednesday, 16 February 2022

SITE SECURED FOR TORQUAY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

The Andrews Labor Government is delivering on its election commitment to give Surf Coast families the best care in their community - with a site secured for the new Torquay Community Hospital.

Minister for Health Martin Foley and Member for South Barwon Darren Cheeseman yesterday announced that a parcel of land at 110 South Beach Road, Torquay, has been secured for the new multi-million-dollar facility.

The Torquay Community Hospital is one of 10 new community hospitals in major growth areas funded as part of a \$675 million investment by the Labor Government

To be operated by Barwon Health, it will be a small public hospital providing a range of integrated community health and specialist services including urgent care for minor injuries and illnesses, day surgery, paediatric services and mental health services. The project will take pressure off nearby major hospitals – allowing them to focus on critical care and acute health issues, emergency care and more complex surgeries and procedures.

Strong links to specialists, community health and social support services will improve follow-up treatment and support for those requiring complex care.

Once complete, the ten community hospitals will have the capacity to treat at least 114,000 more urgent care patients, 55,000 dialysis treatments and enable more than 100,000 additional allied health sessions each year.

The Labor Government's Community Hospital Program will create an estimated 1,900 jobs during planning and construction and deliver over 1,000 healthcare jobs once completed. The final designs for the Torquay Community Hospital are expected to be released in late 2022, with construction due for completion in 2024.

The Labor Government has made unprecedented investments in Victoria's health system, with more than \$133 billion in funding since coming into office – ensuring all Victorians have access to the care, treatment and support they need to stay healthy and well.

Quote attributable to Minister for Health Martin Foley

"The Labor Government is getting on with delivering the largest pipeline of health projects in Victoria's history including in Torquay, so Victorians can access the care and services they need, no matter where they live."

Quote attributable to Member for South Barwon Darren Cheeseman

"This will deliver on our election commitment to give the southern growth corridor of Geelong and the Surf Coast the everyday health services it needs – close to home. This will free up people from spending precious time trying to find a car park in and around Geelong hospital."

Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Gayle Tierney

"This will ensure that people on the Surf Coast can get the non-critical care they need without travelling to Geelong."