

# Media Release

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



Monday, 23 May 2022

## **BIGGER, BETTER ED FOR WERRIBEE MERCY HOSPITAL ON THE WAY**

The Andrews Labor Government is delivering a bigger and better emergency department for Melbourne’s booming outer suburbs, with multi-million-dollar expansions at the Werribee Mercy Hospital and Casey Hospital on the way.

Minister for Health Martin Foley toured Werribee Mercy Hospital today, announcing that funding from the *Victorian Budget 2022/23* will double the hospital’s emergency department capacity – supporting an additional 25,000 presentations per year.

The \$236 million investment, which will also double capacity at the Casey Hospital in Berwick, will deliver four extra resuscitation spaces at Werribee Mercy hospital, as well as eight fast track bays, seven consultation rooms, 28 immediate care cubicles, a Behavioural Assessment Room and 16 short stay beds.

Casey Hospital’s emergency department expansion will include a dedicated paediatric space for children and their families, and support an additional 52,000 presentations annually.

The expansions will help ease pressure on the existing emergency departments for the hospitals’ dedicated doctors, nurses, orderlies and other hospital staff.

Both of these expansions will also help hardworking paramedics get back on the road quicker – reducing ambulance response times by offering more spaces for patients to be cared for.

Delivered by the Victorian Health Building Authority (VHBA), both projects are on track to start early works next year and be completed in 2026, and are expected to create and sustain more than 1,000 jobs during peak construction – providing a major boost to the local economy.

The Labor Government has made unprecedented investments in Victoria’s health system, with more than \$158 billion in funding since coming into office – ensuring all Victorians have access to the care, treatment and support they need to stay happy, healthy and well.

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Health Martin Foley**

*“By doubling capacity at the emergency department at Casey and Werribee Mercy hospitals, we’re helping healthcare staff treat more people, save lives and keep people healthy.”*

*“These expansions are going to help take pressure off nearby emergency departments and make it easier for ambulances to get back on the road.”*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Werribee Tim Pallas**

*“A bigger, better emergency department at the Werribee Mercy Hospital will ensure people in Melbourne’s growing outer west have access to world-class facilities when a loved one gets sick or when an emergency strikes.”*