



4 December 2009

Bright Future for Health and Disability Services

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton said Premier Colin Barnett, Minister for Health, Kim Hames, and Minister for Disability Services, Simon O'Brien, have informed outlined the 10 year blueprint for health and the 15 year strategy to tackle the challenges and barriers facing the more than 400,000 Western Australians living with a disability.

"I have been receiving feedback from the community about the need for continued improvement in health and disability services, so I am delighted to see that Colin Barnett and the State Government have a plan on how take these vital services towards into the future."

Dr Nahan said "The WA Health Clinical Services Framework 2010-2020 (CSF 2010) described a public health system delivering quality services close to where people live, and meeting the demands of a growing and ageing population.

"Under this blueprint, there will be strong growth in metropolitan hospital bed numbers. A key element of this blueprint for WA's health system is the State Government's decision to retain Royal Perth Hospital as an inner city, tertiary hospital with a major Emergency Department," said Dr Nahan.

"Royal Perth, Fiona Stanley, Princess Margaret Hospital for Children (PMH) and Sir Charles Gairdner hospitals will deliver state-of-the-art, specialised, tertiary health services. The roles of Fremantle, Bentley and Osborne Park hospitals would shift to providing specialised services such as mental health, aged care, rehabilitation and elective surgery."

"Hospitals at Albany, Broome, Bunbury, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Northam and Port Hedland will serve as the hubs for rural health service delivery, with major redevelopments planned or under way at Albany, Kalgoorlie and Hedland.

"This plan positions the State to deliver high-quality health services for the entire WA community in the coming decade."

Dr Nahan said "The State Government had consulted extensively to create the 15-year strategy for disability services called 'Count Me In – Disability Future Directions'. We are targeting three key areas - economic security, encouraging participation for people with disabilities in all aspects of life, and specialist support services for people with severe and profound disabilities and their families."

"The State Government has provided more than \$383million recurrent funding for disability services this financial year, an increase of nearly \$30million. Over the four years to 2011-12, there will be additional State funding totalling \$95.5million."

The WA Health Clinical Services Framework 2010-2020 is available by calling 9222 4222 or at <http://www.health.wa.gov.au/publications>. Copies of 'Count Me In - Disability Future Directions' are available from <http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/countmein.html>.

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